

# THE Hongkong Weekly Press

## AND China Overland Trade Report.

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### MARRIAGE.

On the 17th December, at St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong, by the Rev. R. F. Cobbold, M.A., JAMES TORY, eldest son of the late Mr. T. H. DOUGLAS, Morningside, Edinburgh, to MARY LOUISE, third daughter of the Rev. JOHN MACGOWAN, of Amoy, China. (No cards.) [2894]

### DEATHS.

At the Peak Hospital, on the 16th December, DOMINICO MUSSO, Italian Consul, Chevalier of the Crown of Italy, Chevalier of San Lazaro and Maurice, Commander of the Lusignano, aged 64. [2885]  
At No. 20, Caine Road, Hongkong, on the morning of the 18th December, MARCIANO ANTONIO BAPTISTA, Artist, aged 70 years. [2905]

### ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

There have been no arrivals of mails during the week.

### EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

It is reported that Admiral McNair, U.S.N., is to make Shanghai his headquarters this winter.

It is notified that a census of the population of Hongkong is to be taken on the 20th January next.

The French Government has established a Consulate at Newchwang and appointed M. de Pommayrac in charge.

The Japanese Yokohama Chamber of Commerce has passed a resolution to memorialise the Government for the abolition of export duties.

It is notified in the *Gazette* that the Queen has approved of the Hon. T. H. Whitehead's appointment as an unofficial member of the Legislative Council.

At an extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of Dakin, Cruickshank and Co. Limited, held at the Hongkong Hotel on the 17th December, it was decided to wind the Company up voluntarily.

Mr. H. S. Wilkinson, Crown Advocate, left Shanghai for Yokohama in the *Tamise* on the 14th December to lead for the Crown in the Carew poisoning case.

Baron von Rosan, formerly Secretary of the Russian Legation at Tokyo and lately at Madrid, has been appointed Minister at Tokyo, in place of the late Mr. Ritrovo.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—It is now confidently stated that, previously to Germany's objection, Great Britain had objected to receive H.E. Huang as Chinese Minister.

The London correspondent of the *Straits Times* "has every reason to believe that the scheme for starting a Naval Dock at Singapore will soon be an accomplished fact."

In the Supreme Court at Shanghai on the 14th December, in Chambers, Messrs. Dowdall and Hanson, on behalf of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., obtained leave to appeal to the Privy Council against the recent judgment in the *Onwo-Newchwang* collision case.

It is stated that the foreign papers in Japan are to be made amenable to the new Press Law. But we think no one ever doubted that this would be so. When extraterritoriality is abolished foreign papers will naturally enjoy no greater privileges than the vernacular journals.

The Belgian Government have nominated as Military Attaché at Peking Captain Baesens, of the 7th Fortification Artillery Regiment at Antwerp. He is expected here shortly, and brings with him a gun made at Cockerill's, as a present to the Emperor of China.—*Ostasiatisch Lloyd*.

The Tientsin-Lukonchiao Railway, which is in a fair way towards completion, under the management of Hu Yuen-mei, the Governor of Peking, is going to have an extension of twenty li right up to Yungting Gate, and the survey of land for the additional length of the line has been finished up to within five li of the gate.—*Mercury*.

We (*Peking and Tientsin Times*) are informed that Mr. Kinder has been appointed Engineer-in-chief of the Lu-kou-chiao-Hankow railway, and that he has thanked His Excellency Sheng for the appointment, by letter. It is said that Mr. Kinder will also survey the Pao-ting-fu line, together with another railway engineer.

The reply of the Secretary of State with reference to the reconstitution of the Hongkong Sanitary Board has been received and the papers have now been published. Mr. Chamberlain says that under existing circumstances he has decided to defer giving any final decision, and that in the course of a year or so it will be more evident what, if any, is the real want, and how it may best be met.

News reached Singapore on the 8th December to the effect that a terrible explosion occurred on the 1st at Singkep. It seems the Sultan of Lingga had been staying there for some days, having business to transact, and in the morning proceeded on to his yacht *Langjut* to return to Singkep. Just prior to starting, however, the boiler of the yacht burst, with the result that seven men were immediately killed and several others severely injured. The Sultan himself was badly scalded.—*Straits Times*.

Mr. M. de Bunsen, C.B., lately British Chargé d'Affaires at Bangkok, who has been promoted to be Secretary of Legation at Washington, left Bangkok on the 6th December. His departure was marked by expressions of good will and regret on the part of the community.

From the *Echo du Tonkin* we learn that on the night of the 6th December a fire occurred at Pakhoi amongst the huts built on piles on the shore. Thirty houses were destroyed. As it was high water at the time some of the occupants were unable to reach land and twelve women and children perished.

From Saigon papers we learn that the deaths from the *Saghalien* disaster now number sixteen. The remainder of the injured were in a fair way towards recovery. It was uncertain what course would be adopted with regard to the repairs. The captain was of opinion that it would be better that the vessel should return to Marseilles under her remaining boilers and sail, as he thought the work of repair would occupy too long at Saigon, where there are few appliances for the work. No decision had, however, been arrived at.

The *Shanghai Mercury* of the 16th December says:—The new Minister for America, Wu Ting-fang, arrived this morning by the steamer *Hsinfung*, but for reasons unknown to us the local authorities have not done him the honour of giving him a formal reception, as is usually bestowed on a Minister arriving in Shanghai. We presume that as he is not a *litteratus*, but a Western educated man, he is not much respected by the literary class. Mr. Wu is, we believe, the only English-speaking Chinese representing China in foreign countries for the first time.

Native reports received from Chengtu announce the defeat of the Szechuan General Chou and 2,000 Imperial troops on the 5th of September last by the Tibetan insurgents of the Chantai villages on the Szechuan-Tibet frontiers. The insurrection was the outcome of the intrigues of Mahomedan refugees from Kansu, the greater part of whom, on the Kansu-Tibet frontiers, had been already crushed about the same time. It appears that the insurgents drew the troops into a mountain pass near their village and nearly annihilated them. The Viceroy Lu Ch'uan-lin is now sending a large force into Chantai to avenge the disaster.—*N. C. Daily News*.

The *Singapore Free Press* of the 11th December says:—H.M.S. *Porpoise*, Capt. Pelly, escorting the torpedo destroyers *Handy* (Lt. Commander Gillespie) and *Hart* (Lt. Commander Shakespear) left Singapore at 7.30 this morning for Saigon en route to China. For the sake of the destroyers, which have a low free-board, carte blanche is given to Captain Pelly as to his movements. He can wait where he likes and as long as he likes so as to ensure the destroyers not encountering bad weather, as far as that is possible. Accordingly the arrangement is that the destroyers go on up the East Coast and anchor under Timan Island. From there, as weather suits, they will cross the Gulf of Siam to the Cambodian coast and make their way to Saigon. From this port via the coast of Annam they make for the Hainan passage, thence to Hongkong.



### THE HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

The housing of the working classes in Hongkong is a subject that demands earnest consideration at the hands of the Government and the community, and any contribution to its intelligent discussion is to be welcomed. In the *China Mail* a few evenings ago a letter appeared (to which our contemporary gave special prominence by inserting it in the leader column) in which the evils of the existing state of things are forcibly set out; but when it comes to the question of a remedy the correspondent becomes impracticable. He appears to think the Government has only to waive a magic wand, and, presto, the whole colony would undergo a transformation. Landlords, he says, cannot provide such homes as are required except at a pecuniary loss, owing to the extravagant upset price of land in the colony, and to this expression of opinion he gives the emphasis of italics. Now the upset price of land has practically nothing to do with the question. The most over-crowded tenements in the colony exist on land that was originally sold at prices that would now be considered merely nominal; and if the whole of the land still remaining in the hands of the Crown were to-morrow transferred to private capitalists for nothing it would make no difference to the tenants, who would be required to pay for the premises they occupied just so much rent as the premises might be worth on a mercantile basis. For the Crown to give land away for less than it is worth would simply be to enrich private capitalists at the expense of the public. Nor is it a fact that all the land in the colony is held for extravagant upset prices. The Causeway Bay reclamation was made with the express purpose of providing relief for the congestion in the centre of the town, and the land would at that time have been sold for very moderate figures, but no one was found ready to venture on the experiment of building there, because there was no undue pressure on the already existing house accommodation in the immediate neighbourhood and it was believed that further building in that direction would not be a paying speculation. It is one thing to build houses; it is quite another thing to get people to move into them; and at present the working population has a decided preference for the centre of the town, notwithstanding that rents there are much higher than in the outskirts. The correspondent suggests that the Government itself should build coolie houses on the reclamation at West Point "and let them out to the Chinese "at reasonable rates, keeping them in "good condition and carefully supervised." If by reasonable rates the correspondent means rates less than would yield a fair return on the capital invested the scheme would merely mean housing one section of the population, and that a very limited section, at the expense of the remaining sections. If on the other hand it is meant that such rents should be charged as would yield a fair return it is very doubtful whether the class for which the houses were built would occupy them; and even if that point were assured it would be better to leave the work to private enterprise. The duty of the Government in this matter is to see that houses are built to comply with sanitary conditions and that they are not overcrowded, but beyond that its functions can hardly be held to extend, under our present social system. With the advance of socialism the time may possibly come when the Govern-

ment will be the universal landlord, the universal purveyor, and the universal everything, individual effort being obliterated; but no social system will ever solve the problem of getting something out of nothing; even house rent will have to be found somewhere and by some means, and the greater the accommodation provided for each family or individual the greater the rent that will have to be paid for it; and even if we accepted the theories of socialism it would hardly be good policy for Hongkong to put them into practice until they had been tested by more advanced communities.

After the painful lessons of the last few years the Government is fully sensible of its obligations as regards the prevention of overcrowding and the sanitary maintenance of dwellings, some people being inclined to think that it is even a little too strict in its provisions in these particulars. However that may be, the policy adopted has already raised the cost of living accommodation and the rates of wages are rising in sympathy therewith. Against that there is nothing to be said; it is an inevitable consequence of given causes; but philanthropists who would have the colony launch out into extravagant schemes of expenditure should remember that the first to feel the burden of that expenditure would be the very classes whom it is intended to benefit, and though matters would adjust themselves ultimately by an increase of wages, in the meantime, pending the adjustment, the strain might be carried to breaking point. A community's habits and mode of living cannot be changed suddenly, and in the particular case of Hongkong, granted that the need of change is very great, sanitary enthusiasts must not be allowed to remove the break of common sense and rush the colony into bankruptcy. We have no inexhaustible fund on which to draw, in fact no fund at all except the pockets of the public, who have to pay 17½ cents to the Imperial Government for every 82½ cents that they raise for local purposes. When people talk about the Government resuming existing "coolie styes" and building lodging houses to be let for less than they cost, the obvious reply therefore is that one operation such as the Taipingshan Resumption works is as much as the colony can carry through at once. By all means let similar operations in other insanitary districts be undertaken as rapidly as circumstances permit, but they cannot all be undertaken at once, nor can financial considerations be disregarded. It is easy to say that these schemes would be less expensive than plague epidemics, but it would be impracticable to find the money by materially increasing the taxation, which is already high, and if the alternative of a loan were decided upon it is doubtful whether London capitalists would be very ready to supply money to be invested in works that can hardly be expected to prove remunerative, especially when the revenue of the colony is already pledged for the repayment of a prior loan. It cannot be denied that much remains to be done to place the colony in a satisfactory sanitary condition and to provide for the proper housing of the working classes, but in the meantime there is no reasonable fault to be found, according to our view, with the rate of progress that is being made in the work, which must necessarily occupy time and be accomplished gradually. On one point, however, we are thoroughly in agreement with the correspondent of our contemporary and that is as to the duty of the government, Imperial and local, to

provide decent living accommodation for its own employes. If a public company like the Wharf and Godown Company finds it to its interest to make such provision for its employes surely a similar policy would be to the interest of the Government, on whom, moreover, the duty is incumbent of setting a good example to other large employers of labour. More especially is accommodation required for the European employes of the Naval Yard, the Sanitary Department, and the Public Works Department, who have now in many cases to occupy floors in Chinese houses and live under conditions totally unsuited to Europeans, more especially when they have families.

### THE FIRE BRIGADE CASE.

We cannot altogether agree with the decision arrived at by Commander HASTINGS in the Fire Brigade case. The members of the Brigade are a deserving and hard-working body of men and we think they will be ready themselves to admit that discipline must be observed and that an infraction of the regulations merits punishment. The facts of the case lie in a nutshell. The Fire Regulations enjoin that on an alarm of fire the members of the Brigade shall at once hasten to the engine house. The defendants, who on the alarm being given were at a Masonic banquet, did not proceed to the fire, and thereby neglected their duty, although another member of the Brigade, who was also at the Masonic Hall at the time, at once left the Hall and proceeded to the fire. The Superintendent, on the matter coming before him, considered that the offence, in the interests of the discipline of the Force, was one that required to be marked by some punishment and he therefore gave them the option of forfeiting sums of \$9 to \$12 or having the case taken before the Magistrate. Having regard to the excuses put forward it may be considered that the penalties Mr. MAY proposed to inflict were excessive, in two of the cases at least, but the defendants having elected to go before the Magistrate that point does not now arise. To our mind the line of defence adopted by the defendants at the Magistracy considerably aggravated the original offence. They apparently instructed their counsel to make an attack on the Superintendent, and the ground taken up by Mr. FRANCIS, Q.C., appeared to be that because Mr. MAY was not present at the fire himself therefore the learned counsel's clients were not to be punished for their admitted neglect of duty. On the absolute futility of that argument we need not dilate. Mr. MAY clearly showed that with the consent and approval of the Government he had arranged that he and the Deputy Superintendent should take in turn the duty of attending at fires. That may be an unwise arrangement, and it may be urged that Mr. MAY, like his predecessors, should attend all fires when within call. But the question of whether Mr. MAY was present or not had absolutely nothing to do with the point at issue in this case, which was simply whether the defendants had committed a breach of the regulations or not. Notwithstanding the fact of this unwarrantable defence having been raised Commander HASTINGS thought fit to discharge the defendants, in two cases with a caution and in another with a reprimand. In the latter Commander HASTINGS seems to have mistaken his functions: it is not the duty of a Magistrate to "reprimand" persons brought before him charged with an offence; his duty is first to find whether the offence charged has been committed or not and, if so, what



is the proper and adequate punishment. The Superintendent, having brought this charge against the men, was entitled to a finding as to whether the breach of regulations had been proved or not. If it was proved, then the Magistrate might exercise his own discretion as to the punishment. At present the decision is one of acquittal, which is directly contrary to the admitted facts of the case. This will hardly tend to strengthen the authority of the Superintendent or to improve the morale of the Brigade, and from that point of view the decision is to be regretted. But supposing the Magistrate had convicted, nominal fines might have been deemed sufficient in one or possibly two of the cases. One of the men had leave from Police duty and pleaded that he understood that relieved him from all duty, a point on which any man might honestly make a mistake, the question not having previously arisen and there being no ruling upon it; but on the principle that ignorance of the law is no excuse a conviction should have been recorded, though with a nominal penalty if the Magistrate accepted the defendant's explanation, or even without any penalty at all. In another case the defendant pleaded that he had a cold and that the doctor had told him not to get wet; but the doctor's certificate ought to have been obtained before, and not, as was the case, after absence from duty. As the defendant was well aware of the rules on that point, being an old member of the Force, the excuse put forward, though it might mitigate the offence to a degree calling only, in view of the man's good record, for a small fine, should not have been accepted as justifying an acquittal. In the third case the defence was that a man told the defendant that "it was only a chimney on fire." That is a tale to be told to the marines. It cannot be admitted that a fireman is justified in absenting himself from duty on the report of the first outsider he meets as to the extent of the fire; in the present case that report proved inaccurate and would be likely to prove so in many cases. Moreover, even if it were admitted that such an excuse could extenuate the abstention from duty, the defendant's informant should have been called to prove that he had made the report alleged, and what he actually said, in order that the Magistrate might judge for himself as to whether it was reasonable that the defendant should have accepted and acted upon it. That was not done.

#### BICYCLES AND THE PUBLIC TRAFFIC.

It was recently decided by one of the Courts at home that a bicycle is not a vehicle, any more than a pair of skates are a vehicle. If this ruling is to be accepted in Hongkong it may be argued that bicycles do not come under the provisions of the law relating to furious driving and that they are in fact exempt from all control. Sub-section 7 of section 2 of Ordinance XIV. of 1845 provides that every person shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding five pounds who shall "ride or drive on any foot-path without obvious necessity; or shall ride or drive in a furious manner, so as to endanger the life or limb of any person, or to the common danger of the passengers in any public road or thoroughfare; or who, passing or meeting another horse or carriage, shall not keep to the customary side of the road." Here the mention of "another horse or carriage" clearly excludes the idea of a bicycle, a class of machine that had not been thought of when the Ordinance

was passed. Section 30 of Ordinance IV. of 1865 provides that "Whosoever, having charge of any carriage or vehicle, shall, by wanton or furious driving or racing, or other wilful misconduct, or by wilful neglect, do or cause to be done any bodily harm to any person whatsoever, shall be guilty of a misdemeanour, and, being convicted thereof, shall be liable, at the discretion of the Court, to be imprisoned for any term not exceeding two years, with or without hard labour." But bicycles could not be held to come under this section if they are not vehicles. It is true that mention is made of bicycles in the Private Vehicle Licence Ordinance, 1895, in which they are included amongst the exceptions, section 2 providing that "In the construction of this Ordinance 'Private Vehicle' includes all carriages, carts, waggons, trucks, and all other vehicles which do not require to be licensed under Ordinance XXI. of 1887, except private jinrickshas, private chairs, bicycles, tricycles, perambulators, trucks and cars in use on tramways, or such other other vehicles as the Governor in Council may from time to time exempt." From that it may be inferred that in the mind of the drafter of the Ordinance bicycles came naturally under the definition of vehicle and required special mention to exempt them from the operation of a law affecting vehicles in general, but an assumption of that kind would not in itself suffice to make any article a vehicle that would not otherwise be classed as such. Webster's definition of "vehicle" is "(1) That in which anything is or may be carried; any kind of carriage moving on land, either on wheels or runners. (2) That which is used as the instrument of conveyance." This seems wide enough to include bicycles, but there is the legal decision already mentioned to the contrary. But whether a bicycle be etymologically and legally a vehicle or not it is certainly desirable in the interests of the public convenience and safety that machines of this description should be placed under some regulation, and, as they differ so much from other vehicles, that regulations should be specially drawn up for them instead of simply bringing them under the regulations applying to vehicles in general. Bicycling is now becoming a very common form of recreation in the colony and amongst the riders are some reckless youths who are inclined to display their skill by "scorching" down the hill roads and along crowded thoroughfares; there is a laxness also in displaying a light after sundown; and although riders for their own convenience generally follow the rule of the road, as matters stand this is not obligatory upon them. In England bicycles are dealt with under municipal by-laws; in Hongkong it would be necessary to pass an Ordinance should it be decided to bring them under regulation. That it is desirable this should be done we think there can be no question, for bicycles in the hands of rash or clumsy riders constitute a greater danger to the public than the few tradesmen's trucks and trolleys in reference to which the Private Vehicle Licence Ordinance was passed. The licensing system is, however, one to be deprecated. It would be sufficient to pass a short Ordinance making it an offence to ride on a public thoroughfare within the limits of the city at more than a certain specified speed, to ride without a light after sundown, or to infringe the rule of the road. If it were at all feasible it would also be a good thing to stop the unnecessary ringing of bicycle bells in Queen's Road, in the same way that the unnecessary whistling of steam

launches in the harbour has been stopped. Some bicyclists seem to think that when overtaking pedestrians they have only to touch their bell and everybody is bound to get out of their way, whereas it is their duty to get out of the way of the pedestrian, as they would find to their cost if an accident arising from their mistaken assumption gave rise to a civil action for damages.

#### THE "OPIUM WAR."

The last issue of the *Friend of China* contains an interesting article by the Rev. F. STORRS TURNER entitled "Sir JAMES 'LYALL'S Memorandum—The Opium War.'" The question discussed is whether the first English war with China may be correctly described as "the opium war." Mr. TURNER maintains the affirmative, and though we hold the opposite view we have pleasure in recognising the ability and fairness displayed in his argument. He acknowledges that "while the opium trade was the immediate, the principal, all but the sole cause of the war, it is not to be denied that, taking a wider view, there were other causes in the background." Eliminate the words "the principal, all but the sole," and Mr. TURNER's description of the cause of the war might be accepted as historically correct. It is there that we join issue with him. It was the opium dispute that brought matters between the two countries to a head, but according to our view it had even less influence in producing the estrangement that culminated in hostilities than had the question of the Spanish succession in producing the rupture between Germany and France, though that was the question which nominally brought about the war between those Powers. We know that if a cable is strained beyond its strength it will break; the question of the particular point at which it will break is immaterial. So also we know that if persons of incompatible temperaments have to live together they will sooner or later quarrel, and that it would be entirely erroneous to say that this or that particular incident was the sole or principal cause of the quarrel. Mr. TURNER says that "the argument from 'might have been' is as open to us" (the anti-opiumists) "as to our opponents. They freely assert that, 'opium or no opium, there must have happened, sooner or later, a war between Great Britain and China. The assertion is worthless. Nobody knows what would have happened if something else had not occurred.'" From that dictum we dissent. Common knowledge of social phenomena warrants the drawing of certain conclusions from certain premises, and an impartial study of the history of the relations between Great Britain and China ought, we think, to lead to the conclusion that war was certain to occur sooner or later. The other causes of the war, besides opium, are enumerated by Mr. TURNER as follows:—(1) Trade, (2) exterritoriality, (3) diplomatic intercourse, and he argues each of these separately to show that neither one nor the other was a sufficient justification for going to war. The list of causes is incomplete, but taking it as it stands it must be remembered that the real cause was not any one of those enumerated acting separately but the whole conjointly. Mr. TURNER's position, however, appears to be that war is a crime in itself and is under no circumstances justifiable. There we must part company with the rev. gentleman, as we have no longer any common ground of argument with him. War is a thing to be avoided by all



reasonable means, but there are circumstances, according to our view, under which it is not only justifiable but necessary. Our wars with China come within that category.

### THE REGULATION OF NATIVE DAIRIES.

At the last meeting of the Sanitary Board it was decided that no native dairies should be licensed in future unless they have water laid on to the premises. The decision is a wise one and the only reason for surprise is that it was not arrived at earlier. The purity of the milk supply has a very important bearing upon the public health and sanitary authorities cannot be too strict in their supervision of dairies and the enforcement of cleanliness therein. A few weeks ago there were several cases of typhoid fever amongst Europeans in Hongkong and suspicion was directed to the milk as the possible cause. The suspicion was not confirmed, and it was argued that had the infection really been conveyed by the means suggested the number of cases would have been greater, as all who used milk from the infected dairy would have been liable to contract the disease, and also that the cases would have been less scattered. The disease did not become epidemic and has now disappeared, and the milk supply remains, so far as that is concerned, with a "clean bill." The small scare created will, however, not have been without its good effect if it causes increased attention to be paid, not only by the sanitary authorities but the consumers, to this article of diet and the character of the establishments from which it is obtained. The description given by Dr. CLARK of the Chinese dairies at Whanchai shows that they stood in need of some improvement in the arrangements for the supply of water. It seems that they have hitherto drawn their water from the two streams in the neighbourhood of the Kennedy Road laundries, both of which receive waste water from the laundries. As Dr. CLARK says, "The use of such 'water for washing milk cans, etc., may at any time give rise to an extensive outbreak of enteric fever should it happen that the 'clothing from any such case be washed at 'one of these laundries before the disease is 'recognised.' In addition to compelling water to be laid on Dr. CLARK suggests the adoption of additional by-laws for the regulation of dairies, as the practice adopted by many of the Chinese milk sellers of storing their bottles and utensils in a tenement dwelling is calculated to prejudice the public health. It is to be hoped that this matter will soon receive the attention of the Sanitary Board, and that in addition to having water laid on to their premises the dairymen may be compelled to provide themselves with proper accommodation for their business outside their dwellings.

### SUPREME COURT.

#### CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

18th December.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR DR. CARRINGTON  
(CHIEF JUSTICE.)

#### THE CHARGE AGAINST MCKINLEY.

Mr. J. J. Francis mentioned the charge against McKinley and said that the steamer *Hanoi* was due to leave here on Saturday night or Sunday morning and as there were two or three important witnesses on board he asked for the case to be adjourned until the return of the steamer.

It was agreed to adjourn the case until the 20th inst. on the understanding that if the

*Hanoi* did not return by that time there would be a further adjournment.

#### ACQUITTED.

Wallace Edgar Fleming, a sailor, of H.M.S. *Centurion*, was charged with assaulting a barmaid at the Grand Hotel.

Hon. W. M. Goodman (Attorney-General) prosecuted, being instructed by Mr. H. L. Denny (Crown Solicitor.)

The jurors were—Messrs. J. M. V. Ribeiro, W. Whaley, G. William, E. A. W. Hamann, W. Lysaught, F. M. Graca, K. M. Ross.

Mr. H. S. Cooke was called as a juror, but he was excused on the ground that he was going to Canton on business in the afternoon with a friend who had come specially out from England.

The jury unanimously found the prisoner not guilty and he was discharged.

### THE AMATEUR DRAMATIC CLUB'S PERFORMANCE.

On Saturday evening the Hongkong Amateur Dramatic Club gave a performance at the Theatre Royal, the programme consisting of George Grossmith's satirical musical sketch "Cups and Saucers" and Brandon Thomas's farcical comedy "Charley's Aunt." There was a full audience, and amongst those present was H.E. the Governor, Sir William Robinson.

In "Cups and Saucers," an amusing little curtain raiser, there are only two characters, Mrs. Nankeen Worcester (a China maniac) and General Deelah (another.) The lady's part was taken by Mrs. Francis Clark, who had a captivating appearance and gave a very lively representation of the character. Mr. C. H. Grace played the part of the General with his usual ability, making every point tell and bringing out all the humour of the piece. The applause at the conclusion was warm and continuous and the curtain had to be re-raised on the final situation.

In "Charley's Aunt" the cast was as follows:—

Stephen Spettique .....	Mr. W. S. Frowd, R.N.
Col. Sir Francis Chesney, Bart.	Mr. V. A. Caesar-Hawkins.
Jack Chesney .....	Lt. Pryce-Browne, R.M.L.I.
Charley Wykeham .....	Mr. V. A. Lawford, R.N.
Lord Fancourt Babberley ..	Mr. L. K. Davis.
Brassett .....	Mr. H. W. Looker.
The New Footman .....	Mr. E. Ormiston.
Donna Lucia D'Alvadores ..	Mrs. V. A. Caesar-Hawkins.
Amy Spettique .....	Miss Coxon.
Kitty Verdun .....	Mrs. Carey.
Ela Delahay .....	Miss Lucy Danby.

The piece has only once before been given in Hongkong, by the Willard Company a few years ago, and for the benefit of those who have not seen it we may briefly describe the plot. Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham are college chums who have fallen in love respectively with Amy Spettique and Kitty Verdun, who have been on a visit to the university town and are about to leave for Scotland. It therefore becomes necessary for the young men to bring their love affairs to a crisis and they resolve to ask the ladies to luncheon in Jack Chesney's rooms "to meet Donna Lucia D'Alvadores," Charley Wykeham's aunt, a rich old lady who has just returned to England from Brazil and who has signified her intention of paying a visit to her nephew; her arrival, it is calculated, will coincide very fortunately with the luncheon party, thus providing for all the requirements of propriety. It so happens, however, that Donna Lucia changes her mind and a message arrives to the effect that she is not coming until a couple of days later. The young men are thrown into despair by this disarrangement of their plans, as it would be impossible to have the young ladies without an elderly lady to chaperone them. Lord Fancourt Babberley, who has rooms adjoining Jack Chesney's, then opportunely makes his appearance. His Lordship is getting up for a private theatrical rehearsal, his part being that of an old lady, and on seeing him Jack and Charley at once press him into their service and compel him to personate Donna Lucia for them. Meantime Jack Chesney's father, Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, Bart., unexpectedly arrives and forms one of the luncheon party, as also does Mr. Spettique, the young ladies' guardian, and in the course of the afternoon the real Donna Lucia, accompanied by Ela Delahay, arrives, having again changed her plans. These complications give rise to a succession of most

amusing situations, and in the end everything ends happily in good old-fashioned style, the young couples becoming duly engaged with the approval of all concerned.

The principal part is of course that of Lord Fancourt Babberley (famously called "Babs"), which was taken by Mr. L. K. Davis, and never in our experience has the theatre resounded with more boisterous laughter than was evoked by the irresistibly funny acting of this gentleman when impersonating Donna Lucia D'Alvadores, the lady from Brazil, "where the nuis come from, you know." He was very cleverly got up and his every word and action was mirth provoking. Lieut. Pryce-Browne, R.M.L.I., and Mr. B. A. Lawford, R.N., who took the parts respectively of Jack Chesney and Charley Wykeham, gave very good representations of the careless young men at college and ably seconded "Babs" in keeping the fun going. Mr. V. A. Caesar-Hawkins made an excellent Colonel Sir Francis Chesney, alike in appearance and in action, and Mr. W. S. Frowd, R.N., as Stephen Spettique, had a part that suited him admirably. Mr. H. W. Looker as Brassett and Mr. E. Ormiston as The New Footman were both good. Mrs. V. A. Caesar-Hawkins gave an agreeable representation of the part of Donna Lucia D'Alvadores, and Miss Coxon as Amy Spettique and Mrs. Carey as Kitty Verdun were sprightly and amusing. Miss Lucy Danby made her debut on the stage in the rather sentimental part of Ela Delahay and is to be complimented on her self-possession and the clearness of her enunciation.

The performance as a whole was most diverting and went splendidly, except for the last few moments, when there was a sudden falling off, and the denouement fell flat after the boisterous fun of the earlier part. We have not had an opportunity of referring to the book to satisfy ourselves on the point, but we are inclined to think there must have been a little cutting down in judiciously executed. The audience, however, was very well satisfied and at the close the company was recalled.

By kind permission of Colonel Gordon and Officers, the Band of the West Yorkshire Regiment played the following programme during the intervals:—

Overture .....	"Light Cavalry" .....	Suppe.
Valse .....	"Sobre las Olas" .....	Rosas.
Intermezzo .....	"Cavalleria Rusticana" .....	Mascagni.
Song .....	"Killarney" .....	Balfé.
Selection .....	"The Geisha" .....	Sidney Jones.

The performance was repeated on Monday evening.

### HONGKONG PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY'S CONCERT.

The Hongkong Philharmonic Society is to be congratulated upon the very excellent results of its initial effort of the second season, the concert given in St. George's Hall on Thursday evening being a splendid success. That these concerts are appreciated by the public was proved by the fact that the whole of the chairs in the hall were occupied and a few listeners had to be satisfied with standing room. Amongst the audience was His Excellency the Governor Sir William Robinson. The programme was an exceedingly good one and contained ten items, most of which fully deserved the warm approbation with which they were greeted. The orchestra, which was considerably strengthened by the presence of several members of the band of the West Yorkshire Regiment, opened with "The Bohemian Girl," which was well rendered. Their second item, the minuet and trio, and allegro vivace from Haydn's symphony in C minor, was also an excellent contribution, all the instruments keeping good time and being heard to great advantage; but their finest performance was undoubtedly in the dance suite from the incidental music to Henry VIII., the Morris dance and the Shepherd's dance, particularly being beautiful gems, and the rounds of applause at the conclusion allowed how much the music was appreciated by the audience. Of the vocalists, Miss Vallings and Miss Coxon of course came in for the largest share of honours. The public will know the delicious sweetness of Miss Vallings's voice and the tenderness and pathos which



characterise her singing, and she can always be certain of a warm welcome. She was down for only one song, Sullivan's "My dearest heart," and this she rendered with such perfect expression and feeling that the audience would not be satisfied without an encore and she had to respond with "Leslie Lindsay." Even this second effort was insufficient to satisfy the cravings of the audience and Mrs. Vallings again stepped on to the platform and commenced "The bonnie banks of Loch Lomond," but she had to give it up while in the first verse, as the words had slipped her memory and there was only one copy. Miss Coxon was in beautiful voice, and was warmly encored, but we think it was rather unfortunate that her three songs were all French. It was rather a disappointment that she did not oblige with at least one English song. But although her selection was unfortunate her singing was extremely bewitching and her hearers rewarded her with enthusiastic applause. Mr. W. G. Bentley's clarinet solo, Weber's concertino in C minor (Op. 26), was a grand musical treat and one which created a very deep impression and elicited a warm encore. Mr. Bentley, who was most ably accompanied on the piano by Mrs. C. S. Gordon, is an absolute master of the clarinet and we hope to have the pleasure of hearing him many times during the season. Mr. E. E. Hill made his first appearance before the Hongkong public, singing in the first part "Good night, Farewell," and in the second part two songs from the Hungarian Volkslieder arranged by Korbay. Mr. Hill has a pleasant tenor voice, but his singing is scarcely of such a high order as to justify his being asked to make two appearances at one concert, and the programme would have been improved had his place been taken in the second part by one of our old favourites, Mr. Sliman or Mr. Grace for instance. The chorus figured best in the fantasia on national melodies, which was given with much spirit and precision. The drinking song and chorus from "Cavalleria Rusticana" was on the other hand somewhat weak, owing, we believe, to want of sufficient rehearsal; Mr. G. P. Lammert, as the soloist, sang with his usual ability and it was a pity his fine effort was marred by the poor support of the chorus and orchestra, who did not work well together.

The conductor was Mr. A. G. Ward and he fulfilled his important and arduous duties most thoroughly and conscientiously, and the success of the concert was in no slight degree due to his valuable assistance. The accompanists were Mrs. C. S. Gordon, Mr. A. G. Ward, and Mr. G. Grimbale.

The orchestra was composed of the following ladies and gentlemen—

1st Violin—Mr. C. Schröter, Mr. G. Sydney  
Mr. E. J. Lopes.  
2nd Violin—Miss Humphreys, Miss L. Crawford, Miss Mast, Mr. R. E. Batillos, Mr. A. J. M. Farr.  
Viola—Mr. H. Houben, Pte. G. Skilton.  
Violoncello—Mr. H. Ehmer, Mr. E. Wetenhall, Mr. E. A. Measor.  
Bass—Pte. A. Lyons.  
Flute—Mr. L. Crawford, Mr. Baptista, Mr. H. Kammell.  
Oboe—Sergt. J. Quaid.  
Clarinet—Mr. A. Cumming, Mr. A. E. Alves.  
Horn—Mr. H. Cooke, Sergt. C. Murrell.  
Cornets—Pte. D. Haley, Pte. G. Henson.  
Trombone—Pte. J. Chatwin.  
Drum—Pte. J. Cormack.  
Piano—Mr. E. Danenberg.  
Chorus—Soprano—Mrs. D. W. Craddock, Miss Bain, Miss Danby, Miss Eitel, Miss M. Eitel, Miss Clement, Miss Crawford, Mrs. Dodd, Miss Goggin, Miss Holmes, Mrs. Osborne, Mrs. W. Shewan.  
Alto—Mrs. G. C. Cox, Mrs. Wilcox, Mrs. F. Dodwell, Mrs. Mast.  
Tenor—Mr. H. Arthur, Mr. M. J. Danenberg, Mr. G. P. Lammert, Mr. E. Mirow, Mr. E. K. Mackay, Mr. D. K. Sliman.  
Bass—Mr. H. Wilcox, Mr. W. Armstrong, Mr. J. R. Crook, Mr. D. W. Craddock, Mr. J. B. Duncan, Mr. J. Goosmann, Mr. J. E. Judah.

A large number of Japanese women are returning from Formosa by every steamer arriving at Nagasaki from the island.

## HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

A meeting of the Sanitary Board was held on the 17th December at the offices. Hon. F. A. Cooper (Director of Public Works) presided and there were also present—Hon. F. H. May (Captain Superintendent of Police), Dr. Ayres (Colonial Surgeon), Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), Mr. N. J. Ede, and Mr. H. McCallum (Secretary).

### MINUTES.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and confirmed.

### SMALLPOX AT KOBE.

A return from H.B.M. Consul at Hyogo showed that from the 23rd November to the 30th November there were at that port 176 cases of smallpox, 99 of which proved fatal. During the previous week there were 183 cases and 97 deaths.

### CHOLERA AT SINGAPORE.

A return from Singapore showed that there was only one case of cholera there from the 17th November to the 24th November.

### PLAGUE IN FORMOSA.

The Acting British Consul at Tainan forwarded a table showing that from the 21st November to the 28th November there were 107 cases of plague in Formosa, 59 of which proved fatal.

### PLAGUE IN BOMBAY.

Mr. J. D. E. Atkins, Secretary to the Government, Bombay, forwarded a tabular statement showing the number of attacks and deaths from the bubonic plague in Bombay city up to 24th November last, and stated that the cause of the outbreak was unknown, but that the subject was being thoroughly investigated by a Committee of experts appointed by the Bombay Government. In compliance with the wishes of the Board a return would be sent fortnightly.

MR. CHAMBERLAIN AND THE PLAGUE WORK. The Colonial Secretary forwarded for the information of the Sanitary Board a copy of the following letter which had been received from the Secretary of State for the Colonies—

Downing Street,  
23rd October, 1896.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch, No. 213 of the 1st ultimo, reporting the cessation of the epidemic of bubonic plague.

I have read the despatch with interest and satisfaction. A copy of the 6th paragraph, so far as it relates to the services of Dr. Wilm, has been sent to the Foreign Office for communication to the German Ambassador, and it remains for me cordially to acknowledge the self-sacrificing efforts of the two nursing sisters, Miss McIntosh and Miss Ireland, and the good work of Mr. Cooper and his colleagues on the Sanitary Board, and of Dr. Clark, the Medical Officer of Health.—I have, &c.,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

His Excellency the Governor, Sir William Robinson.

### WHAT THE YEAR'S PLAGUE COST.

The SECRETARY wrote as follows—It has occurred to me that the attached abstract showing the expenditure incurred by the Board in combatting bubonic plague between the 1st of the current year and the 30th November would be of interest to members. It will be observed that out of a total expenditure of \$42,856 over \$20,000 has been expended in the cleansing and limewashing of premises. Such an expenditure should not again be necessary, even if we are again unfortunate enough to have a similar outbreak of bubonic plague, inasmuch as the law now provides for the regular periodical limewashing of tenement dwellings, and this limewashing necessarily entails a thorough cleansing of such premises. The cost of disinfecting infected houses and the free use of disinfectants generally amounts to close on \$6,000, and of this sum no less than \$2,872.50 was for chlorinated lime, which was used almost exclusively in the latrines which are open to the public. The pay of the police and soldiers engaged on house to house visitation, etc., amounts to \$7,782.08. The expenditure on the hire of marriage boats on which to isolate people from infected houses, as well as the cost of meals for them while there, and also the cost of transferring them to and from the boats, etc.,

amounts to about \$2,500. These boats were only used during the months of January and February. The foregoing figures deal with about three-fourths of the total expenditure. The remaining one-fourth calls for no special remark.

The SECRETARY appended the detailed statement of expenditure, and the total was \$42,856.39.

### INSPECTORS OF NUISANCES FROM ENGLAND.

The Colonial Secretary forwarded a letter to the Board from the Secretary of State for the Colonies in reply to a despatch of the 18th August and No. 220 of the 15th September respecting the appointment of two Inspectors of Nuisances for the Sanitary Board, Hongkong. Mr. Chamberlain wrote—“I have the honour to inform you that I approve of this proposal and that the Crown Agents have been authorized to engage two suitable men in accordance with the terms of your despatch and the paper of particulars enclosed therein.”

### MORTALITY STATISTICS.

For the week ended 5th December the death rate was 21.3 per 1,000 per annum, as compared with 26.6 for the corresponding period of last year. For the week ended 12th inst. the death rate was 22.9 as against 28.3 for the corresponding week of last year.

### SOAPY WATER AND MILK.

Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health) reported that almost the whole of the cowsheds in Kennedy Street and Stone Nullah Lane are unprovided with a suitable supply of good wholesome water as required by law. He found upon investigation that the water which is used for the use of the animals and also for the washing of the milk cans was gathered from the stone nullah or from a small stream on the east side of the Kennedy Road laundries, both of which receive the waste water from these laundries. The use of such water for washing milk cans, etc., may at any time give rise to an extensive outbreak of enteric fever should it happen that the clothing from any such case be washed at one of these laundries before the disease is recognized. He therefore suggested that the Board should insist upon the provision of an ample supply of potable water for every cowshed before they renewed the licences for these premises for the ensuing year, and should moreover prohibit the use of any of these streams for the above purposes. He also recommended the adoption of by-laws for the regulation of dairies, as the practice adopted by many of the Chinese milk sellers of storing their milk bottles and utensils in a tenement dwelling is calculated to prejudice the public health. In his opinion each cowshed should have an adequate supply of water laid on from the mains. The streams receive all water thrown into the surface channels of the laundries and from personal observation he could say that a considerable amount of soapy water found its way into the streams.

The SECRETARY, in a minute, was not sure that the businesses were such as would warrant the cowkeepers incurring the necessary expenditure to have water laid on. A fountain adjoining the sheds would probably meet all that was necessary.

Mr. EDE and the CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT F POLICE agreed with the proposals of the Medical Officer of Health.

The PRESIDENT also agreed, and said that the water drawn from public fountains was not supposed to be used for trade purposes. The drainage from the laundries is connected with the public sewerage system.

In connection with the Medical Officer's report there were ten applications for the renewal of the licences of cowkeepers.

The PRESIDENT moved that the applicants be informed that their licences would not be renewed until water had been laid on to their premises to the satisfaction of the Medical Officer.

The proposal was seconded and carried.

### ADJOURNMENT.

The Board adjourned until Thursday week.

A Bangkok correspondent of a Saigon paper writes—“Ici tout est triste, et on s'ennuie du foot-ball ou du lawn tennis de la Residence, nous n'avons aucun amusement pour charmer nos loisirs.” “Fool ball” is not bad.



## POLICE PINNACE SUNK IN THE HARBOR.

### A LUKONG DROWNED.

About a quarter to four on the morning of the 17th December an alarming accident happened in the harbour. The steam launch *Lun Fat* ran down police pinnace No. 4, which was sunk, and a lukong who was in the pinnace was drowned. The upshot of the collision and its fatal consequence is that the coxswain and four of the crew of the launch have been arrested. The launch journeys between Stanley, Aberdeen, and Hongkong, and it left Stanley about two o'clock in the morning and at 3.30 arrived off Centre Street and overtook police pinnace No. 4, which was travelling in the same direction (eastward). The launch ran into the pinnace, which was immediately sunk. P.C. Kerr (15) was in charge of the pinnace and with him were four Chinese, two lukongs, an engineer, and a stoker. All these men were of course thrown into the water and unfortunately one lukong, Chan Pin, was drowned. The remainder were happily rescued, owing chiefly to the commendable conduct of P.C. Fincher, who was on duty on the Praya, and whose attention to the collision was attracted by seeing the lights of the pinnace disappear. Fincher took a sampan and with all speed hastened to the scene and helped the men to reach the launch in safety. The launch was ordered to proceed to Pedder's Wharf, and here Kerr took the coxswain and four of the crew into custody. They were afterwards brought up at the Police Court and charged with navigating the launch without proper precaution in a negligent and dangerous manner and without a proper look-out, thereby running down and sinking the police pinnace No. 4. After formal evidence had been taken, the defendants, who were represented by Mr. Master, were remanded.

The body of the lukong who was drowned as the result of the collision between a steam launch and a police pinnace was recovered on Thursday afternoon and on Friday the burial took place and was attended by the whole of the Chinese force off duty. At the Magistracy in the afternoon the coxswain and four of the crew of the launch were charged with navigating the launch in an improper manner and thereby causing the death of the lukong. Mr. Master appeared for the defence. After hearing some of the evidence the case was remanded.

## HONGKONG BENEVOLENT SOCIETY.

The annual general meeting of the members of the Hongkong Ladies' Benevolent Society was held at the City Hall on the 17th December. Mr. T. Jackson presided and amongst those present were Mrs. F. H. Master (hon. secretary), Mrs. E. A. Ritchie (hon. treasurer), Mrs. Black, Mrs. St. C. Michaelson, Mrs. G. C. Cox, Mrs. Hawkins, Miss Anderson, Rev. R. F. Cobbold, Rev. Mr. Iliff, and Capt. Anderson.

Mr. T. JACKSON said he had pleasure in again meeting the members of the Society to hear them give an account of their stewardship for the past year. It was very gratifying to find that the funds were in such good order, notwithstanding that the sum of \$1,279.24 had been disbursed on relief during the year, against \$1,205.96 in 1895. Therefore, instead of bringing forward, as on the last occasion, a balance of \$852.68, the handsome amount of \$1,488.27 was carried forward for the present year. The Society was indebted to the ballad concert committee, the proceeds of the concert realising \$408 odd. Subscriptions and donations had increased by \$280 over last year, showing that the public appreciated the efforts of the good ladies who devoted their time and energy to this most useful institution. The number of cases dealt with during the year were less than in the previous year, viz. 48 against 53, but the amount disbursed was even more than last year. In conclusion, Mr. Jackson said he hoped the ladies would continue to give their time and attention to the welfare of the Society. Great care was taken in sifting the cases that were brought to their notice and in giving relief

only to the deserving. He was sure the ladies deserved the hearty thanks of the community for the splendid work they were doing. Mr. Jackson then proposed that the accounts be passed, and invited discussion.

The Rev. Mr. Iliff seconded, and no questions being asked the accounts were passed.

The next business was the election of the Committee. Mrs. Burdon and Mrs. Coxon did not offer themselves for re-election, the former having left the colony. On the motion of Mr. Jackson these two ladies were accorded a hearty vote of thanks for the interest they had taken in the work of the Society in the past.

Captain ANDERSON proposed a vote of thanks to the retiring Committee and said the ladies deserved the highest praise for the practical manner in which they had supported the benign principles of faith, hope, and charity.

The Committee was then elected as follows:—Mrs. Master, Mrs. Cooper, Mrs. Ritchie, Mrs. Forbes, Mrs. May, Mrs. Bell-Irving, Mrs. Goodman, Mrs. Hawkins, Mrs. Michaelson, Mrs. Black, and Mrs. Siebs.

Capt. ANDERSON proposed a vote of thanks to Mr. Jackson for presiding, which was carried with acclamation, and the meeting terminated.

### The following is the statement of account:

Dr.		\$	c.
To balance from last year		852.68	
To donations and subscriptions		1,253.92	
To interest from Hongkong Bank		22.85	
To ballad concert		408.70	
To A.D.C. performance		100.00	
To Rifle Brigade Burlesque		50.00	
		<b>\$2,788.15</b>	
Cr.		\$	c.
By relief of cases		1,279.24	
By printing and stationery		18.64	
By cheque book		2.00	
By balance carried forward		1,488.27	
		<b>\$2,788.15</b>	

## THE TUNG WA HOSPITAL.

A meeting was held in the Tung Wa Hospital on the 20th December. About sixty people were present, ten of whom were kaifong people. Mr. Lo Tsz-chung was elected chairman.

The CHAIRMAN said a meeting was held in the Hospital last Sunday to consider the question of appointing a Chinese trained in Western medical science to reside in the hospital, but as there were no kaifong present, the question was not then settled. They went the other day to see Mr. Lockhart, who wanted the question to be settled as soon as possible. They asked him to let the question stand over for a week so as to ascertain the opinion of the kaifong people. Mr. Lockhart refused at first, but they asked, how could they carry the whole responsibility on their shoulders, as they had not had a word from the kaifong people. Mr. Lockhart at last allowed the question to stand over for a week. He (the Chairman) then asked Mr. Lockhart how much salary was required to pay the doctor trained in Western medical science. Mr. Lockhart said the doctor's salary would be about \$1,800 per annum. In reply to a question as to the cost of Western medicine, Mr. Lockhart said that was rather hard to estimate, and further said that the Government was willing to give them pecuniary aid. He (the Chairman) then told Mr. Lockhart that the salary of a Chinese doctor was twenty taels per month and that his engagement was a quarterly one, that they could discharge him after his term of three months had expired and if they wanted to engage him again another term had to be contracted. Mr. Lockhart asked, why not engage doctors monthly by month instead of for a period of three months. They said a period of three months was much better. They then asked Mr. Lockhart to issue a notice to tell the kaifong people not to complain of the directors in the question of appointing the doctor trained in Western medical science. Mr. Lockhart refused to issue such notice. The question must be settled today, and they could then give a definite answer to H.E. the Governor. He (the Chairman) had no more to say about the question. If any gentleman wished to give his opinion, he was requested to come forward and give it now.

Mr. LIAM PU-LAU, a former director, said they first had the Tung Wa Hospital for the benefit of the poor and afterwards the charitable institution, the Alice Memorial Hospital, was established. The Governor's idea to appoint a Chinese trained in Western medical science to reside in the Hospital was a good one. The Tung Wa Hospital could only hold about one hundred and sixty in patients. At present there are over one hundred in patients. As there were scarcely sufficient rooms for the Chinese doctors to reside in, how could they find room to lodge the doctor trained in Western medical science, if one was appointed? They had better ask the Governor to give them a site in the immediate neighbourhood of the Tung Wa on which they could erect another building. The cost of its erection would be defrayed by the kaifong people, so that they could have sufficient room to house the patients and the doctor trained in Western medical science. They must ask the Government to stand the cost of Western medicine. That the Governor should wish to appoint such a doctor was an excellent thing. They must help His Excellency to effect the appointment.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUEN said this meeting was especially held to settle the question of appointing a doctor trained in Western medical science to reside in the Hospital in accordance with the recommendation of the Governor. He went one day to see Mr. Lockhart and asked him, "Is it the intention of His Excellency to severely punish those who say anything against the appointment?" Mr. Lockhart said His Excellency did not mean that, but that His Excellency's idea was that if any one was found to stir up trouble he was to be severely dealt with. If any gentleman wished to say anything, he had better say it now. Some time ago a commission was appointed by the Governor to investigate the conditions of the Hospital, for some European doctors said that the Tung Wa Hospital was in a bad condition and that it should be abolished. The commissioners said that the hospital did much good and that it should not be abolished. Messrs. Wai A-yuk and Lo Tsz-tiu said it would be a good thing to appoint a doctor trained in Western medical science to reside in the Hospital, but it must be left to the choice of the patients whether they would be attended by a Chinese doctor or a doctor trained in Western medical science. His Excellency had power to abolish the Hospital, but His Excellency would do no such thing unless something very serious occurred. The Government was willing to give them pecuniary aid. If Hongkong was unfortunately again visited by plague Dr. Chung, if he was appointed, would be of great use to them and they would be saved the trouble of being questioned by European doctors. As Mr. Lam-Py-lan said, the Hospital had not sufficient room to house the new doctor and the patients. He thought the Government would give them a site on which to erect another building. If they had to apply to the Governor for aid they should first ask for pecuniary aid and secondly for power over the new doctor. If there was no room to house the doctor, they had better appoint him subject to further arrangements, but they could not say that as there was not sufficient room they would defer the question for two or three years.

Mr. LEUNG PU-TSZ said that what Mr. Fung Wa-chuen had said was quite right. The Governor's wish to appoint the doctor was a good one. If they had a doctor trained in Western medical science they could ask his advice at any time, even at night, when it was rather hard to get a doctor.

Mr. LO Tsz-tiu said that when he saw Mr. Lockhart the other day he (Mr. Lo Tsz-tiu) said that to appoint a Chinese trained in Western medical science would be a good thing, but he also said that the patients must be allowed to choose for themselves what doctor they would have.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHUEN said Dr. Chung was a very able doctor, and the directors would have power to discharge him if necessary.

Mr. LO CHUNG-SHUI said it did not matter which doctor trained in Western medical science was engaged. The directors must have power to discharge him, if Dr. Chung was appointed, would he be allowed private practice?



Mr. LIU TSE-SHAN said Dr. Chung had now only a salary of \$50 per month. If they gave him a good salary he must always stay in the Hospital and not go out to attend other people. If the directors engaged him to attend their own families he of course must be paid.

Mr. HO CHAK-SANG said that if the appointment was now confirmed they could not raise complaints afterwards.

The CHAIRMAN then requested anyone objecting to the appointment to hold up his hand.

No hand was put up.

Mr. WONG SHING-TUNG said these proceedings must be entered on the records, so that the kaifong people could not complain afterwards.

The CHAIRMAN said the proceedings would of course be kept on record. The newspapers would tell the people all about it and they could not raise complaints afterwards.

Mr. FUNG WA-CHURN on behalf of the kaifong people thanked the directors, who have taken a good trouble to effect the appointment. The proceedings closed with cheers.

### THE REBELLION IN THE PHILIPPINES.

It was rumoured on the 17th December that Dr. Rizal, Pedro Roxas, and Luna, the artist, were on Tuesday publicly shot at Manila for the conspicuous part they took in assisting the rebels in the Philippines. It was also said that the insurgents were making great headway in the country and that they were now within easy marching distance of Manila. As to the latter statement, however, it must be remembered that bands of insurgents have been hovering on the outskirts of the city for some time, and the report may have its origin only in the appearance of one of these bands at some particular point. All private advices received by letter state that no apprehension need be entertained as to the safety of the city itself, and we do not think any special uneasiness need be caused by the reports now current.

We are indebted to Senor Navarro, Spanish Consul, for a copy of the following telegram received from the Governor-General of the Philippines:—

Manila, 18th December.

Yesterday the quarries of Meycauyan (the refuge and stronghold of the rebels in the province of Bulacan) were attacked by our troops, who routed the insurgents and captured the position, killing forty-seven of the rebel force. We had only two wounded.

Yesterday and the day before, at Parañaque, the troops, who were in ambush, captured a rebel convey of provisions and 149 bullocks. The rebels had ten men killed. We had no casualties.

### DR. RIZAL.

Dr. Rizal, who is reported to have been shot at Manila for alleged complicity in the Philippine rebellion, is not unknown in Hongkong, having spent some time here on his way back to Manila after completing his education in Europe. Soon after his arrival at Manila he was deported to one of the other islands of the Archipelago, on account of his disseminating by writing and otherwise opinions which the Spanish Government deemed subversive of public order. The sentence of deportation had, we believe, been revoked shortly before the rebellion broke out. When the disturbances broke out Dr. Rizal was sent to Spain to be placed at the disposition of the Madrid Government, but was immediately sent back to Manila, where, according to report, he was shot a few days ago, presumably after trial by court-martial. The following letter (with enclosures) addressed to him by General Blanco, on his departure from Manila to Madrid, has been placed at our disposal. While we cannot guarantee the authenticity of the document we believe it to be genuine.

Dear Sir,—Enclosed I send you two letters to the Ministers of War and of the Colonies which I believe will be well received. I do not doubt that my recommendation will be justified before the Government by your future conduct, not only because you have pledged your word, but also because

the present occurrences have plainly demonstrated to you that certain proceedings producing extravagant ideas can only result in hatred, ruin, tears, and bloodshed.

With good wishes, etc.

RAMON BLANCO.

Manila, 30th August, 1896.

(Enclosure.)

The Captain-General of the Philippines.

Manila, 30th August, 1896.

Private.

Exmo. Senor Don Marcelo de Azcarraga.

My esteemed General and distinguished friend,—I recommend to you with real interest Senor Don José Rizal, who is leaving for the Peninsula at the disposition of the Government and who is desirous of serving as a doctor with the army in Cuba.

His conduct during the four years that he has been in deportation in Dapitan has been exemplary and in my opinion he is the more worthy of pardon and benevolence inasmuch as he has been in no way complicated in the rising that we now lament, either in the conspiracy itself or in any of the secret societies that have hatched it.

For this reason I have the pleasure to address myself to you with the most distinguished consideration as a friend and comrade.

RAMON BLANCO.

[The letter addressed to the Minister for the Colonies was in the same terms.]

### THE RECONSTITUTION OF THE SANITARY BOARD.

The following papers, which are to be laid before the Legislative Council at its next meeting, have been forwarded to us from the Colonial Secretary's Office:—

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Hongkong, 18th May, 1895.

My Lord Marquess,—I have the honour to transmit herewith the Report of the Committee to enquire into the Medical Establishment of this colony.

2.—As the reorganization of the Medical Establishment is intimately connected with the question of the constitution of the Sanitary Board, I propose before dealing with the Committee's Report to place before your Lordship my views generally on the necessity of effecting a change in the arrangements at present in force for carrying out the sanitary work of this colony.

3.—Your Lordship is already aware from my previous despatches that this important question has been engaging my attention for some time. In my despatch No. 201 of the 4th September last, forwarding the report of the Retrenchment Committee, I informed you that I concurred generally in the views of the Committee, which urged the consideration of the question whether the Sanitary Department "should not be placed on a different basis and all the sanitary arrangements and powers placed in the hands of one thoroughly competent officer, who should be personally responsible to Government for all matters connected with the health of the colony, and for the carrying out of all sanitary laws and regulations," and I stated that I was in favour of a fixed personal responsibility.

4.—As your Lordship will remember the Retrenchment Committee was composed of the Acting Chief Justice, two unofficial members of Council—Mr. Chater and Mr. Keswick—and Mr. Jackson. I have again consulted these gentlemen as well as Mr. McConachie and Mr. Bellios, and they are all unanimously in favour of the Government being directly responsible for the sanitation of the colony.

5.—Mr. Keswick states:—"As matters now are there is practically no properly constituted sanitary authority, and from its very nature it is impossible that the Board as now existing can adequately fulfil those functions expected of it, and that it can be held fully responsible for any efficiency in the sanitation of the colony. The state of sanitary matters exposed last summer at the outbreak of the plague sufficiently bears out these views which, I believe I am right in asserting, are shared by the public at large."

6.—Mr. McConachie, while concurring in the views expressed by Mr. Keswick, states:—"The main fault to be found with the present Board is the fact that the responsibility for their actions cannot be pinned down to the Government or any one in particular."

7.—I have also consulted the members of the Executive Council, all of whom practically hold the same views as those expressed by the unofficial members.

8.—The Colonial Secretary and Registrar-General also reports that it is not possible to find any leading Chinese gentleman who is willing to fill the vacancy on the Board caused by the resignation of the Chinese members who formerly belonged to it and that all those Chinese gentlemen whom he has approached on the subject, while expressing their unwillingness or incapability to serve, informed him that they would prefer the sanitation of the colony to be under the direct control of the Government.

9.—From the enclosed copy of a letter \* from the Chamber of Commerce, which includes in its membership the leading European merchants in this colony, it will be seen that discontent exists with regard to the sanitation of the colony, and I feel certain that this feeling of discontent will not be removed and that the sanitation of this colony will never be put on a satisfactory footing until the sanitary arrangements are placed under the direct control of the Government, as recommended by the unofficial members whom I have quoted above and by the members of Executive Council, in whose recommendations I concur.

10.—I therefore submit for your Lordship's approval that the Sanitary Board as at present constituted be abolished and that the Head of the Medical Department of this colony, who should be styled Principal Civil Medical Officer, be made responsible, not only for the work of that Department, but also for the sanitary work of the colony, other than that of an engineering nature, which should be placed under the Director of Public Works.

11.—In order to enable the Principal Civil Medical Officer to discharge these duties effectively, I consider that he would require to have under him at least four assistants, none of whom should be appointed exclusively for particular duties, but who should be ready to discharge whatever duties the Principal Civil Medical Officer might call upon them to perform.

12.—The present staff of the Sanitary Board should also be placed under the Principal Civil Medical Officer. The office of Secretary would have to be retained, but the work now performed by the Superintendent could be carried on by the Medical Assistant deputed to discharge the duties of Medical Officer of Health, who would be responsible to the Principal Civil Medical Officer for supervising the Nuisance Inspectors, who at present work under the Sanitary Superintendent.

3.—If your Lordship approves the arrangement which I have suggested, I am confident that the sanitation of the colony, which is of supreme importance to its welfare, will rapidly be improved, and that the friction, which has arisen frequently between the Sanitary Board and the Government and between the Sanitary Board and the public, will be lessened if not altogether avoided.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM ROBINSON,

Governor.

The Right Honourable the Marquess of Ripon, Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c., &c., &c.

\* Printed in Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1895.

† The remainder of this despatch deals with the constitution of the Medical Department.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Downing Street,

18th September, 1895.

Sir,—I have had under my careful consideration your despatch No. 163 of the 18th of May enclosing the report of the Committee appointed to enquire into the Medical Establishment of the colony.

2.—In your despatch you deal with the difficult question of the Sanitary Board to



which attention had been called in the report of the Retrenchment Committee. You state that you have again consulted the gentlemen who constituted the Retrenchment Committee as well as Mr. McConachie and Mr. Belilios and the members of your Executive Council, and that there is practically an unanimous opinion that the Government should be held directly responsible for the sanitation of the colony. Your own view is to the same effect, and you recommend that "the Sanitary Board as at present constituted be abolished and that the Head of the Medical Department of this colony, who should be styled Principal Civil Medical Officer, be made responsible not only for the work of that department but also for the sanitary work of the colony other than that of an engineering nature which should be placed under the Director of Public Works."

3.—I am not prepared to controvert the opinion which has been thus given after long attention to the subject and consultation with representative residents in the colony. Sanitation is so all important in Hongkong that it seems only right that it should be under the direct control of the Colonial Government and that responsibility in the matter should not be divided; but I consider it to be desirable that before the Sanitary Board is definitely abolished, there should be some resolution or expression of opinion to that effect on the part of the Legislative Council, and I would ask you to invite them to favour me with a formal pronouncement of their views as soon as may be convenient.

4.—In the meantime I have not tendered and do not propose to tender any advice to Her Majesty in respect of Ordinances No. 9 and No. 11 of 1895 enclosed in your despatches No. 131 of the 23rd of April and No. 177 of the 4th of June, inasmuch as they imply the continued existence of the Sanitary Board.

5.—In the event of the Sanitary Board being abolished you propose that the Medical Department and Sanitary Department should be combined and that the Head of the Medical Department should be held responsible for the sanitation of the colony. I am inclined to agree with you, though the view does not seem to be shared by the Committee which has lately reported upon the Medical Department, and whose report states (page iii.) that the Health Officer for the colony should in "our opinion have no connection whatever with the medical staff proper." The paragraph, however, in which these words occur assumes the continuance of the Sanitary Board, and it may, I think, be concluded that in the absence of such a Board the Principal Medical Officer and his staff should be entrusted with and held responsible for the discharge of sanitary as well as purely medical duties as was suggested by Lord Ripon.

6.—Under the new conditions you consider that the Head of the Medical Department should have at least four assistants, none of whom—as had already been suggested in my predecessor's despatch to which I have just referred—should be appointed exclusively for particular duties, and in your despatch No. 173 of the 30th of May last you express a strong opinion, which I accept, that none of the medical officers should be allowed any private practice beyond fees for consultation. The sanitary staff, you add, should be placed under the Principal Medical Officer, the office of Secretary to the Sanitary Board being retained (necessarily with some change of title), but the duties of Sanitary Superintendent being entrusted to one of the medical assistants deputed to act as Officer of Health. On this point I would suggest that the Principal Medical Officer should be formally recognised as the responsible Health Officer of the colony, leaving him to apportion the sanitary and medical duties among his assistants as he thinks fit, and in this you will probably agree with me. You consider that it will suffice if he is given four assistants, but I should doubt whether four will be able successfully to carry on all the medical and sanitary work of the colony when the post of Sanitary Superintendent becomes vacant and the duties attached to that post devolve upon one or other of the members of the medical staff, even though the whole time of all these officers will be devoted to the Government service. It may be also necessary to re-arrange the salaries and

possibly to offer better terms than have hitherto been offered, but the new scheme can be carefully worked out pending the occurrence of vacancies which will enable it to be carried into effect.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir W. Robinson, K.C.M.G., &c., &c., &c.

† The remainder of this despatch deals with the Constitution of the Medical Department.

#### THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Hongkong, 2nd December, 1895.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 229 of the 18th September last, on the subject of the Sanitary Board and Medical Staff of the colony.

2.—In the course of your remarks on the former important question, you refer to the unanimous opinion held by the unofficial members of the Legislative Council in favour of the direct responsibility of the Government for the sanitation of the colony, and you naturally draw the inference that this unanimity extends to the practical side of the question.

3.—From the enclosed written opinions \* of the several unofficial members (with the exception of Mr. Whitehead) you will learn that this is, unfortunately, not the case, and that there is a considerable divergence of views on the practical point at issue.

4.—I consider it would be futile to formally approach the Legislative Council on the subject of the abolition of the Sanitary Board, and the only alternative that occurs to me is to adopt the opinion shared by the majority of the unofficial members, viz., Messrs. Keswick, Chater, McConachie, and Bell-Irving.

5.—I accordingly submit for your consideration the enclosed draft Bill † for the reconstitution of the Sanitary Board on the lines suggested by those gentlemen, from which you will observe that it is proposed that the new Board shall consist of three officials, viz., the Colonial Surgeon, the Director of Public Works, and the Captain Superintendent of Police, and two unofficial members to be elected by the ratepayers.

6.—In view of my previously expressed opinion on this subject I cannot pretend to regard the proposed new Board as entirely satisfactory. It will certainly prove better adapted to fulfil its objects more speedily and effectively than the Board as at present constituted, but on the other hand it must necessarily involve, even though it be only in a minor degree, division of responsibility. I am unwilling, however, to press my views in a due opposition to public opinion as represented by the unofficial members of Council, and I am unable to devise a more satisfactory compromise than that contained in the draft Bill.

7.—As it is very important that this question should be settled as soon as possible, I shall be glad if you will convey your decision to me by telegraph at the earliest possible date.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

W. ROBINSON,  
Governor.

The Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain, M.P., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for the Colonies, &c., &c., &c.

\* Printed in Sessional Paper No. 7 of 1896.

† Already printed and circulated to members of the Legislative Council.

#### THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Downing Street,

21st February, 1896.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 337 of the 2nd of December enclosing a draft Ordinance for the reconstitution of the Sanitary Board.

Under the circumstances set forth in your despatch I approve of the introduction of this Ordinance and telegraphed to you accordingly on the 13th instant.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor Sir W. Robinson, K.C.M.G., &c., &c., &c.

#### THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

Government House,

Hongkong, 30th June, 1896.

Sir,—I regret that I have been more tardy to you the question of the constitution of the Sanitary Board.

2.—From my previous despatches on this subject noted in the margin you will have gathered that I am strongly in favour of undivided responsibility in sanitary matters. With this object in view I recommended, in the first instance, that the Sanitary Board as at present constituted should be abolished and that the control of sanitary matters should be placed entirely under the control of Government. Afterwards, however, I informed you in my despatch No. 337 of 2nd December, 1895, that I was willing, in deference to the views of the majority of the unofficial members of the Legislative Council, to accept a compromise, according to which the Board would be constituted of three official and two unofficial members, though I was not satisfied that undivided responsibility would be secured under such an arrangement. The adoption of the proposed compromise having been sanctioned by you, an Ordinance embodying it was introduced into the Legislative Council. Before, however, it was read a first time it became evident that it would not prove acceptable to a portion of the British residents of this colony. In order to ascertain what might be the views of the British community, I suggested that a plebiscite should be taken. Arrangements were accordingly made, and a plebiscite of the British community, exclusive of members of the Imperial and Civil Services, was held, the question submitted to the voters being whether the Sanitary Board should consist of a majority of officials or of unofficials. The result of the plebiscite was that 331 voted for an unofficial majority and 31 for an official majority. Among the former only three or four Chinese voted and among the latter none.

3.—From this plebiscite it appears that 331 British residents are in favour of a Board which should be controlled by unofficial members.

4.—In view of my previously expressed opinion on the importance of undivided responsibility in sanitary matters, it is hardly necessary for me to state that I am not in favour of a Board the responsibility of which will be divided and which will exercise its functions independently of Government control. Judging from the working of the present Board, which consists of an official and unofficial element, the latter of which preponderates, I considered that a mixed constitution such as is now provided for, does not work well in practice and leads to constant friction. In fact, this seems to be not infrequently the result of attempts to graft on a Crown Colony constitution popular institutions, which do not appear suited to work smoothly or successfully under such conditions.

5.—After carefully considering the question of the constitution of the Sanitary Board, I am of opinion that in order to secure undivided responsibility the sanitary affairs of the colony should either be placed directly under Government control or should be entrusted to a Board composed entirely of unofficials.

6.—In view of the peculiar circumstances of Hongkong and of the fact that the population is chiefly made up of Chinese, who will be more easily and more effectively dealt with by Government than by a popularly constituted Board, I am in favour of sanitary affairs being placed directly under Government control and managed entirely by a Government department responsible to the Governor.

7.—The alternative—a Board composed entirely of unofficials—would not, I fear, work well in this colony, which, as Lord Ripon has pointed out, has become a Chinese colony under the British flag. Out of a population of 210,000 the Chinese amount to about 243,000, and it is with sanitation among the Chinese that a Board, whatever its constitution may be, must be chiefly concerned. Further, it would be extremely difficult to draw the line between matters which should come under the Government and the Sanitary Board, and this would most certainly lead to friction and misunderstanding. At the same time it is easy to understand the desire of those who, having



been accustomed to popular institutions in Great Britain, wish to extend similar institutions to this colony. But so long as Hongkong continues to retain its present character both as regards its constitution and its population, I do not think popular institutions would thrive under such unusual and peculiar conditions.

8.—After mature consideration of this difficult question, I am in favour of the Sanitary Board being placed directly under Government control in the manner proposed in my despatch No. 163 of the 18th May, 1895, but I have thought it right to place you in possession of the views held by others as well as my own, so that you may be in a position to consider both sides of the question before conveying to me your final decision in the matter.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM ROBINSON,  
Governor.

The Right Honourable Joseph Chamberlain,  
M.P., Her Majesty's Principal Secretary  
of State for the Colonies, &c., &c.,

No. 163 of the 18th May, 1895.  
No. 337 of the 2nd December, 1893.

(Telegram.)

THE GOVERNOR TO THE SECRETARY OF  
STATE.

Hongkong, 27th October, 1896.

Referring to my despatch No. 150 of 30th  
June, when may reply be expected?

GOVERNOR.

Secretary of State for Colonies.

(Telegram.)

THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE  
GOVERNOR.

London, 6th November, 1896.

Referring to your telegram of 27th October,  
despatch following by Mail.

SECRETARY OF STATE FOR COLONIES.  
Governor, Hongkong.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE GOVERNOR.

Downing Street,

6th November, 1896.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the  
receipt of your despatch No. 150 of the 30th  
of June last and of your telegram of the 27th  
ultimo on the subject of the Sanitary Board.

2.—I understand the Board, as at present  
constituted, to be working well, and I consider  
that the question of its future constitution may  
well stand over to be dealt with, if necessary,  
hereafter, by your successor, who will be in a  
position to approach it *de novo* with the advantage  
of the information which has already been  
gained on the subject.

3.—I have come to this conclusion in part  
because I think that, on reflection, you must  
concur with me that in taking a plebiscite of  
the British community exclusive of the members  
of the Government services the situation has  
been much complicated. I have every reason  
to assume that the British merchants and residents  
in Hongkong have the same good sense  
and public spirit as their countrymen elsewhere,  
but it is impossible that Hongkong should be  
other than a Crown Colony; it is inconsistent  
with Crown Colony government to seek the  
guidance of a plebiscite; and in no community  
whatever, whether Crown Colony or not, can a  
satisfactory solution of a question, in which the  
whole body of the ratepayers and many outside  
that body are interested, be induced from an  
expression of the opinions of one section alone.

4.—In the present instance, the plebiscite  
having been held, you have found yourself constrained  
to advise a course opposed to that for  
which the very large majority of the votes were  
cast.

5.—Under existing circumstances, then, I  
have decided to defer giving any final decision.  
In the course of a year or so it will be more  
evident what, if any, is the real want, and how  
it may best be met. I have the honour to be,  
sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor, Sir, W. Robinson, K.C.M.G., &c.,  
&c., &c.

Mr. Valentine Chirol, of the Times, is now in  
Korea.

## DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK AND CO., LIMITED.

An extraordinary general meeting of Dakin,  
Cruikshank & Co., Limited, was held on the 17th  
December, at noon, at the Hongkong Hotel.  
Mr. J. Andrew presided and there were also  
present—Messrs. A. Bain (Director), W. Hay  
(Manager), F. Maitland, Dr. Noble, G. H.  
Potts, W. G. Humphries, H. L. Dennys, A. G.  
Stokes, F. A. Gomes, C. L. Gorham, A.  
Coutts, R. A. Gubbay, M. S. Sassoon, and  
Fung A Chat.

The CHAIRMAN—This meeting has been  
called at the requisition of ten shareholders,  
representing one-fifth of the Company's capital,  
to wind up the Company in a mutual way,  
and I suppose we shall be able to appoint a  
liquidator. I shall be glad to hear a proposal  
for the winding up and to put it to the meeting.

Mr. F. MAITLAND—Mr. Chairman, we were  
all much surprised at the disastrous results,  
as shown in the last report issued for 1895, in  
which account, besides the loss on the year's  
working, the following sums, most of which  
should have appeared in previous accounts,  
were written off, viz.:—\$6,311.76, differences in  
accounts receivable in Hongkong and Amoy;  
\$6,490.98, differences in sterling drafts;  
\$9,891.74, differences in stock, 1894; \$10,101.21,  
bad debts written off Hongkong debtors.

Nothing whatever seems to have been  
written off the plant, machinery, furniture,  
and steam launch, and these are no doubt  
in the books at considerably over the  
actual value. It is a great pity that share-  
holders should have been kept in the dark with  
regard to the true state of the affairs of the  
Company, during the past year or two, by what  
I think you will consider are inaccuracies  
in the figures laid before you at the last  
meeting. The 1894 account showed a profit  
of \$1,186.95, whereas there really existed a  
large debt balance, and had the shareholders  
not been blinded by the manner in which the  
figures were laid before them, they would un-  
doubtedly have taken steps there and then  
to look closely into matters with a view either  
to alter the working of the concern so as to  
arrest further loss or to consider the question of  
liquidation. Now, gentlemen, I wish to state  
that I became personally connected with the  
Company as Mr. Dakin's attorney in March last,  
and since then I have been in constant com-  
munication with him, both on his behalf and on  
account of a large body of shareholders in Eng-  
land. It was a great surprise to me when I  
heard that the books of the Company did not  
represent the true state of the business. I im-  
mediately wrote the directors complaining of the  
long delay in issuing the account, and request-  
ing them to lose no time in having a true state-  
ment issued. As representing a large number of  
shareholders, I have been afforded opportunities  
by the directors of looking closely into the  
figures and working of the Company, with the  
result that I am convinced the only way  
to save anything for the shareholders is to sell  
the Company as a going concern. If it is  
brought to the hammer, as I have every reason  
to believe would be the case, unless the local  
creditors are satisfied, the shareholders can  
expect to get little or nothing. The reasons  
for my coming to this conclusion are—  
first and most important—the Company  
is at present working at a loss, the turn  
over of a little over \$8,000 per month  
not being sufficient to meet the current ex-  
penses of over \$2,600 per month. Secondly,  
the Company is financially at a very low ebb,  
and they have had to buy articles locally instead  
of getting them direct from home, thereby  
losing part of the profit. Thirdly, the sale of  
sweet waters, such as ginger ale, lemonade, etc.,  
is large, but not so the soda water, while the  
profit on the former is small as compared with  
that on the latter. Fourthly, the harbour busi-  
ness forms a large proportion of the trade of the  
Company, but one item sold, viz., beer, is disposed  
of at a trifle over cost, price in order to secure  
the sale of drugs, etc., and the loss through bad  
debts on this part of the trade is by no means  
infinite. I have therefore to propose that  
the Company be wound up.

The CHAIRMAN—We have done nothing in  
regard to this resolution until instructed by  
Mr. Dennys.

Mr. MAITLAND—Mr. Dennys will be here  
in a few minutes.

The CHAIRMAN—If he comes he will be able  
to advise us as to the proper form.

Mr. MAITLAND—I would like to make the  
proposition in a legal form. I may further  
state I have in my possession a *bona fide* offer  
for the Company, which might be considered at  
a private meeting, to get the feeling of the  
shareholders in regard to it.

Mr. DENNYS at this point arrived and after  
consulting with him Mr. MAITLAND said—I  
beg to propose, in accordance with the notice  
which appeared in the papers last week, that the  
Company be wound up voluntarily.

The CHAIRMAN—Would you put that on  
paper, Mr. Maitland?

Mr. MAITLAND wrote out his motion, with  
the addition "and that a liquidator be appointed  
to wind it up."

The CHAIRMAN—Does that belong to the  
business of the meeting just now?

Mr. DENNYS—It is a question whether it is  
advisable to do it. It may be done, it is part  
of the winding-up business.

Mr. F. A. GOMES seconded the motion.

Carried.

Dr. NOBLE—I propose that Mr. Maitland be  
appointed liquidator for the purpose of winding  
up the Company and that the fee of the liqui-  
dator be \$500 for services rendered.

Mr. STOKES seconded.

Carried.

The CHAIRMAN—Now, I do not think there  
is anything more to be done.

Mr. MAITLAND—I would like to get the feel-  
ing of the shareholders with regard to certain  
matters, and I think it would be well to have  
the meeting in private.

The shareholders then held a private meeting.

## HONGKONG POLO CLUB.

A general meeting of the members was held  
in the Polo matshed, Causeway Bay, at 5.30  
p.m. on Friday last, the Hon. T. H. Whitehead  
being in the chair. There were present Hon.  
F. H. May, Surgeon-Captain Edge, A.M.S.,  
Captain Burney, R.A., Mr. Buzzard, R.A.,  
Captain Loveband, A.D.C., Captain Lusk, and  
Messrs. King and Gordon, West Yorkshire  
Regiment.

The accounts were submitted to the meeting,  
showing a balance in hand on 30th November,  
1896, of \$142.87.

It was decided to re-erect the fence at the  
back of the goal at the east end of the ground  
running alongside the nullah, which had been  
destroyed in the typhoon of 29th July last, at  
the expense of the Club, and also to repair the  
existing matshed. The re-erection of the fence  
would cost \$35, and the repair of the matshed  
\$45. These sums were unanimously voted, and  
the work was to be commenced at once.

It was proposed and carried that the first  
Friday in each month should be set aside for  
a match for Mr. May's cup. As the first  
Friday of January would fall on New Year's  
day, when some members hoped to be away for  
a short holiday, Friday, the 8th January, was  
settled on as the first match day.

The following officers were elected for  
the ensuing year:—Committee—Hon. T. H.  
Whitehead, Hon. F. H. May, Captain Burney,  
R.A., Mr. Wood, West Yorkshire Regiment.  
Hon. Sec.—Captain F. R. Loveband, A.D.C.

## ROYAL HONGKONG YACHT CLUB.

### RACES FOR COMMODORE'S CUPS.

The Commodore of the Club, the Hon. F. H.  
May, C.M.G., has presented two Cups this  
season, one for each class, and the conditions  
are the best of three short races to be sailed on  
Saturday afternoons when there is no race on  
the succeeding Sunday, the boats being handi-  
capped for each race by the Committee.

The first races of the series were sailed on  
Saturday. The start for the first class was at  
2 p.m. and for the second class at 2.10 p.m.  
The course was from the Police Pier (Tsim-tai-  
tsai), round mark boat of Tsat-tze-mui, No. 1  
Dock buoy, mark boat off pier, mark boat off  
Tsat-tze-mui, all to port. Both classes sailed  
the same course.



The first class was represented by—

Erica (Mr. A. Denison), scratch.  
 Sybil (Royal Engineers), scratch.  
 Maid Marion (Mr. J. Hastings), scratch.  
 Meteor (Mr. T. W. Lammert), 30 seconds.  
 Chanticleer (Mr. C. A. Tomes), 1 minute.  
 Active (Mr. H. E. Pollock), 1 min. 30 secs.  
 Princess (Mr. J. McKie), 1 min. 30 secs.

The Princess did not start.

The Sybil got the best of a good start and in the lighter wind off Tsim-tsa-tsu quickly assumed the lead, but when the little fleet got out into the full strength of the nice whole sail breeze that was blowing she was soon overhauled, and the Meteor, sailing at a great pace, went to the front, hotly pursued by the Erica. A divergence of opinion was manifested by helmsmen as to whether to work the Hongkong or the Kowloon shore. Maid Marion and Chanticleer elected the latter course, the remainder the former. For once Mr. J. Hastings, who generally does the right thing, was wrong, there being still a drain of the ebb left on the Hongkong side, and his mistake deprived him of all chance of the race. The mark boat off Tsat-tze-mui was rounded as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
Meteor	2	39	—
Erica	2	41	45
Active	2	42	15
Chanticleer	2	44	—
Sybil	2	45	—
Maid Marion	2	45	30

The Chanticleer had been sailing remarkably fast and if Mr. Tomes had not followed Mr. Hastings into Hunghom bay would have been very little, if anything, behind the leading boat. No alteration in the above order took place on the run round the Dock buoy and back to the starting line, the mark boat off the pier being rounded as follows:—

	H.	M.	S.
Meteor	3	2	—
Erica	3	2	54
Active	3	7	5
Chanticleer	3	8	30
Sybil	3	8	55
Maid Marion	3	9	5

The second time round the wind fell a good deal lighter, but there was still a nice steady sailing breeze, and a very fine struggle was witnessed between the Meteor and the Erica. Both boats were exceptionally well sailed and no opportunity or advantage was missed by either helmsman. Neither of the boats could gain any advantage over the other until within the last 200 yards from the Tsat-tze-mui mark, when Mr. Kew, who was sailing the Meteor, having tacked rather short to make his mark, had to pinch all he knew to get round without an extra tack. He just did it, the Meteor giving an exhibition of wind jamming that proves her in our opinion the most weatherly boat in the fleet. The times rounding the mark were:—

	H.	M.	S.
Meteor	3	42	45
Erica	3	43	30
Chanticleer	3	48	—
Active	3	52	—
Maid Marion	3	54	—
Sybil	3	56	30

Erica gained on Meteor in the run home and caught her on the post, a fine race finishing:—

	H.	M.	S.
Erica	3	59	45
Meteor	3	59	47
Chanticleer	4	5	15
Active	4	10	30
Maid Marion	4	11	30
Sybil	4	13	—

The Chanticleer, which has undergone some alterations, sailed in a very different style to what she has hitherto done and we confidently expect to see her take her place in the front rank in the next few races. The Sybil gave a disappointing display. She showed none of the speed which she undoubtedly possesses. We don't like her foresail and we got a glimpse of her bottom and we would invite the attention of the Sanitary Board to it.

The Meteor won with 28 seconds in hand and scores 10 points.

Erica	4
Chanticleer	1

In the second class the handicap was as follows:—

Payne (Royal Engineers), scratch.  
 Dart (Dr. F. W. Clarke), scratch.  
 Ladybird (Mr. Grist), 2 mins.  
 She (Mr. E. M. Hazeland), 4 mins.  
 Eileen (Capt. Phillips, W.Y.R.), 6 mins.  
 Seabreeze (Captain Sterling), 8 mins.  
 Elfin (Mr. Hamann), 8 mins.

The Elfin did not start. The rest crossed the line close together and the Dart, well sailed by Mr. C. H. Gale, quickly forged to the front with the She in the hands of another P. W. D. man close on her heels. Seabreeze was sailed for all she was worth by the man of "yards and humour." His crew seemed to be of almost equal proportions to himself and the boat did look a bit tired at the finish. The times round the Tsat-tze-mui mark were:—

	H.	M.	S.
Dart	2	51	30
She	2	53	30
Eileen	2	56	15
Seabreeze	3	—	—
Ladybird	3	2	30
Payne	3	7	30

While the mark boat off the pier was rounded at—

	H.	M.	S.
Dart	3	14	55
She	3	17	30
Eileen	3	19	25
Seabreeze	3	24	20
Ladybird	3	25	33
Payne	3	29	0

The She was still within her time of the Dart, but the lighter wind during the second round favoured the latter, and Mr. Gale was enabled to increase his lead, but the She just managed to save her time by the narrow margin of 25 seconds in hand, as will be seen from the following times at the finish,—

	H.	M.	S.
Dart	4	16	45
She	4	20	20
Eileen	4	23	45
Ladybird	4	36	28
Seabreeze	4	36	45

The Payne gave up.

The marks earned are—

She	10
Dart	4
Eileen	1

## HONGKONG CRICKET CLUB.

### THE MARRIED V. THE SINGLE.

Dame Fortune is said to deal generously in the matter of compensations, and it might have been supposed that she would have considered it fitting that the general wretchedness of the single man's lot should be alleviated in some slight degree by a victory on the cricket field over his more happily situated and well cared for married rival. Such was not the case, however, for though the single man was spared the actual bitterness of defeat, he had to return to the miserable quarters he calls his home to brood over another disappointment, whilst his opponent, more happy in every phase of life, went back to his joyous fireside to share the delights of a moral victory with his amiable and accomplished wife and his well brought up and nicely mannered family. Is there any justice in it?

The Single had a fairly good team, which included two names that are new to Hongkong, E. H. Beasley, an old Ripton boy, who comes with a good cricket reputation, and P. A. Cox, who has done great things at Shanghai. They both made a successful first appearance, scoring 30 and 22 respectively. Mounsey, E. W. Maitland, and C. W. Gordon were the other chief contributors, with 31, 32, and 42, and the total put together by the side amounted to 189; the most successful bowlers being Grimble and McKenzie, who got 4 wickets each. The married men made an almost unexpectedly stout resistance from the outset, Inchbald and Langhorne putting on nearly 60 runs for the first wicket, and treating all the bowling as if it was brown paper, whilst subsequently Vallings and Johnston hit away with a good deal of freedom. The forcing game had not been started quite early enough, however,

and when the ball rang the batting side were still 22 runs to the bad with 4 wickets to fall.

By the courtesy of Col. Faithfull and the officers, the band of the Hongkong Regiment played upon the ground during the afternoon.

The following is the score and analysis:

SINGLES			
	Runs	Wkts.	Extras
E. H. Beasley, b McKenzie	30	—	—
K. W. Mounsey, b McKenzie, b Grimble	31	—	—
A. G. Ward, c and b McKenzie	30	—	—
J. R. Gillingham, b McKenzie	32	—	—
P. A. Cox, b Grimble	22	—	—
E. W. Maitland, c sub. b Mast	32	—	—
C. W. Gordon, W.Y.R., c Grimble, b McKenzie	42	—	—
P. G. Davies, b Grimble	10	—	—
J. M. Atkinson, c Inchbald, b Grimble	10	—	—
R. F. Lammert, b Vallings	0	—	—
H. Arthur, not out	8	—	—
Extras	2	—	—
	189	—	—

### BOWLING ANALYSIS

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts.
G. R. Vallings	8	1	65	1
E. Mast	5	—	27	1
A. Mackenzie	18.1	3	40	4
G. Grimble	20	6	54	4
Langhorne	4	1	15	—

### MARRIED

C. C. Inchbald, hit wicket, b Cox	20
Capt. Langhorne, b Gillingham	36
Rev. G. R. Vallings, c Gillingham, b Davies	64
Sur-Major Johnston, l.b.w. b Gordon	37
E. Mast, b Gillingham	3
A. McKenzie, not out	3
G. Grimble, b Gordon	0
A. Anderson, Capt. Carey, Capt. Woodcock, and J. S. Bartrum, W.Y.R., to bat	14
Extras	14

### BOWLING ANALYSIS

	Overs	Mdns	Runs	Wkts.
P. A. Cox	16	4	29	1
P. G. Davies	10	2	29	1
R. F. Lammert	6	2	30	—
J. R. Gillingham	14	3	31	2
C. W. Gordon	6.1	2	9	2
E. W. Maitland	9	2	30	—
E. H. Beasley	2	—	11	—

On Christmas day and Boxing day the Club play the first of their annual matches against the United Services.

## A FRENCH VIEW OF JAPANESE EXPANSION.

We translate the following from the *Courrier de Saigon* of the 9th December:—

The Japanese mission, which has been sent to Indo-China to study the details of our colonial administration will arrive at Saigon tomorrow evening by the Tonkin steamer. The local Government, having been informed of the visit, has had flagstaffs and decorations placed in the Rue Catinat and on the boulevards.

It is known that the little Japanese cherish, since their triumph in war, the idea of creating an Asiatic colonial empire, and perhaps they are coming to take a measure of us with a view to this great enterprise. Perhaps, also, Indo-China may be included in the circle of their future desires and the little Japs, as the English call them, may think that the beautiful French colony will easily become a natural dependency of Manila and the Philippine Islands, on which they have already cast their eye. Certainly all these countries would provide an outlet for their tin-sel products and tin-pot commercial exports.

However, improbable this news may appear, our readers may rest assured that we give it only on good grounds. A Japanese Prince, General of Division, one day addressed to M. C., a high official of Cochinchina who was spending a three months' holiday under the beautiful sky of Japan, the following remarks, of the purport of which we guarantee the accuracy:—

"We Japanese have become a strong and redoubtable people. We produce much and colonies are therefore necessary to us. Our motto is 'Asia for the Asiatics,' but especially and by preference for the Japanese. Manila in five years, the Malay Peninsula, a few of the islands of Netherlands India, and other trifies of territory in certain parts of China will satisfy our ambition for the present. After that we shall see."

So you see the little Japs are not hard to please! Already their plan is placed in train



for rapid execution. The ironclad hastily sent to Manila is a pretext which has opened singular horizons to attentive observers.

We will return to the views of Japan in a future article. For the present we may smile a little, but let us maintain a prudent guard. These gay people may greatly astonish the world one day, and the day may not be far distant.

### THE WOOLLEN MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY IN JAPAN.

In an article on the report of the trade of Japan for the first half of 1896, prepared by Mr. Hobart Hampden, of H.B.M. Consular Service, the *Japan Mail* says:—

Mr. Hampden speaks of woollen manufactures also, but we doubt whether he does full justice to the quiet yet steady progress which that branch of enterprise is making in Japan. It is true that woollen articles of apparel have not yet been taken largely into wear by the Japanese, and probably many years will elapse before the demand for such goods becomes so great as to attract much enterprise to their manufacture. At present, they are needed chiefly by wearers of foreign costume, and in the form of rugs, hose, and shawls. It is beyond question that the serges and tweeds now made in Japan are thoroughly suited for clothing purposes, and as for the rugs and shawls they may be said to have supplanted, or to be in process of supplanting, the imported article. Mr. Hampden speaks of the Japanese manufactures being "conspicuously wanting in excellence of quality and durability." He is doubtless right in the main. The Japanese themselves are sensible that they have not yet succeeded in producing a thread equal to the English. But that can be a question of time only, and we have to observe that durability is an advantage with certain limits. The great majority of persons that buy rugs, shawls, and blankets in Japan do not care for an article that will last more than four or five years. That degree of durability suits their purpose well enough, and to get beyond it at an increased investment of capital is an idea having little attraction for them. The blankets and rugs made from shoddy at the Shiba factory are precisely the kind of thing that the lower orders look for, and it must have struck every observer that the imported red rug formerly seen almost universally on the shoulders of *jinrikishamen* or over the knees of their fares, has been replaced by a striped article of much soberer hue, a home product. We do not suppose that Japan will ever have an Edward the Third to bring over Flemish weavers and fullers as instructors, nor yet a Charles the Second to order that every one shall be buried in a woollen shroud. Without such official aid her woollen manufacturing industry has already reached the stage of assured success, and we venture to predict that one of the most important articles of import in this section, *mousseline de laine* (*to-chirimen*), will soon find itself in sharp competition with a Japanese rival. It is worth noting in this context that German flannels have entirely lost cast in Japan. Nobody will look at them now-a-days, and those that find a market are said to be sold, for the most part, as British goods. Japanese woollens, too, benefit by adventitious aid of that kind in some cases. We heard recently that one of the proprietors of the Senju Factory, visiting a shop in Ginza, was offered articles that he had himself supplied under contract, the salesman assuring him solemnly that they were the best British goods. Mr. Hampden mentions, we observe, that in connection with the increased demand for army clothing necessitated by military expansion, a large order for wool will be, or has been, placed with a Sydney firm. It is a curious fact that the Japanese have hitherto found it cheaper to purchase Australian wool in Liverpool than to get it direct from the place of production. The cheapening of freights from Australia now that steamers of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha have begun to ply regularly will doubtless cause a change. Mr. Hampden does not notice, we observe, that wool is beginning to be largely used in the manufacture of the well-known *Sakat-dansu*. Originally of cotton only, these attractive carpets and rugs afterwards became a mixture of

cotton and jute, then of cotton and hemp, and finally of cotton and wool. The material last added promises to improve the quality of the manufacture greatly.

### THE PRICE OF THE TELEGRAPH CONVENTION.

A few somewhat important details respecting the recent Telegraph Convention between the Cable Companies and the Imperial Chinese Telegraph Administration have reached us, which are of interest to the public, but more especially to the Chamber of Commerce and the other bodies representing commercial interests in China and Hongkong, which have taken upon themselves the heat and burden of the day in resisting the almost overwhelming forces now arrayed against the interest of reasonable telegraphic rates from the Far East. In the new arrangement by which all the hopes of the Chinese system of land-lines taking advantage of their geographical position to force the hands of the Cable Companies in the matter of lowering rates, are abandoned for our time at least. Some concessions have been made by the Administration to the Cable Companies, which at first sight are inexplicable, as no *quid pro quo* is disclosed. Knowing what we do of the Chinese character, of its native skill in driving a bargain, and of the adroitness of Sheng Taotai, the chief manipulator of the wires, it is difficult to discover, unless it is something that can be readily stowed away beyond the range of ordinary vision, where he can easily lay his hand upon it, what he has gained by placing the entire Chinese telegraph system at the mercy of the Cable Companies. Of one thing we may rest assured, that whatever Sheng has given away he has exacted the full price for it, no matter how the price is concealed or into whose pocket it may go. But on the face of it, it is not easily discoverable, though the Chinese are not loth to assign a ready explanation which is eminently in keeping with what we know of the character of Sheng. Amongst other things the Cable Companies, who have hitherto paid an annual rental to the Chinese Administration for the use of the short line connecting Shanghai with Woosung, are now given the free use of that line, for a lump sum by which the yearly rental is compounded at once. A question which will here naturally arise is, who has got the advantage of this composition? Is it the Administration as a whole or some individual? We confess we are not in a position to reply, but the Chinese have no hesitation in furnishing an answer in favour of Sheng. It is quite true that the Cable Companies on the other hand concede the privilege to the Chinese Administration of the free use of the Hongkong-Kowloon cable, which at first sight would seem a sufficient set-off against what has been given away in the North; but when we know that the Chinese lines are further bound to hand over to the Cable Companies every message given in at inland telegraph stations and addressed to places beyond China, she virtually thereby transfers one of her most important sovereign rights, the control of her communications, the precise value of the Cable Companies' equivalent for the freedom of the Shanghai-Woosung line is more apparent. We rather fancy that the privilege of free transit of Chinese messages over the short cable between Kowloon and Hongkong is confined to Chinese Government messages and messages from the interior of China to Chinese in Hongkong, for it is certain, according to our information, that the Chinese have voluntarily abandoned their connection with outside telegraph systems and given up working their lines to Helampo and Hunchun, joining the Russian system at these places. It is also pretty well known that during the short time the former line was working it paid handsomely. It must, therefore, have taken a good deal to induce Sheng to give it up, but whatever the price and whoever got it, the undisputed fact is that it has been paid in some form for the very valuable consideration given by the Cable Companies in return for the apparent generosity of Sheng. On the other hand the public, who hand in messages at the Chinese offices for transmission abroad, may now be assured that they will reach their destination and in a recognisable

form, a circumstance only within the region of bare chance when the Chinese Administration had the sole control of messages from inland stations, and from the Cable ports, while the war between the Companies and the Administration was in progress.—*China Gazette*.

### THE QUESTION OF PATENT RIGHTS IN JAPAN.

Tokyo, 7th December.

The Patent Bureau has come to the following decisions in regard to the patents applied for by German subjects:—

1.—No patent shall be granted for a German invention which has been already imitated in this country.

2.—No patent shall be granted for even a new invention which has been patented in Germany, when such invention is already known to the public by newspaper or books.

3.—After the Japanese Government has joined the International Convention for the Protection of Industrial Property and Copyright, free manufacture shall be allowed to the Japanese manufacturers of new foreign patent goods, unless the protection of such patent has been applied for to the Japanese Government within seven months after such patent has been granted at home.

These resolutions are said to have been approved by the Minister President, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Agriculture and Commerce.—*Kobe Chronicle* translation.

### PROPOSED JAPANESE VOLUNTEER FLEET (C).

Reserve officers of the Japanese Army and Navy propose to start a company for organising a volunteer fleet, with three cruisers, each of 6,000 tons and 20 knots in speed, and six cruisers, each of 3,000 tons and 17 knots in speed, besides fourteen iron or copper plated strong steamers, of more than 14 knots, and eight small steamers. In peace time these vessels are to be engaged in the ordinary carrying trade to America, Australia, China, Korea, and Formosa, avoiding competition with other ordinary shipping firms as much as possible. But in case of eventualities, the Company is to offer all its vessels to the State service, the cruisers undertaking the task of conveying transports or capturing the enemy's merchant vessels. The capital is to be 20,000,000 yen, divided into 400,000 shares of 50 yen each to be apportioned to patriotic subscribers. The head office is to be established in Kobe, with branches in Osaka, Tokyo, and Yokohama. The chief projector of the scheme is Major Takeda Nobuyasu (Kochi-man), who acted as Commissariat Inspector at Haiching, and was over China and Korea, during the Japan-China war. He early saw the necessity of such a fleet, and was for some time making investigations about the Russian volunteer fleet, and at last found an influential supporter in the person of Rear-Admiral Isobe, who extended the scheme originally proposed and found many supporters among the Osaka and Tokyo capitalists. An application for permission to establish the Company will be sent in to the authorities before the end of the year. So says the *Asahi*, but it remains to be seen how the projectors propose such a concern to be self-maintaining.—*Japan Gazette*.

### KOREA.

Seoul, 30th November.

Russia is gradually securing a firm foothold in the peninsula. A few weeks ago a number of Russian military officers arrived to drill the Korean army. Amongst these were ten non-commissioned officers (the number to be increased in the near future), who occupy quarters within the enclosure of the new palace. These we believe are to act as a sort of bodyguard to the king, who will doubtless soon leave the Russian Legation and occupy the newly built palace in the foreign settlement of the capital. Russians have also received several concessions, one of which is the cutting of timber in the north and on Dagelet Island, off the east coast of Korea. The correspondents of the Japanese papers are for once right in saying that there is widespread murmuring amongst the Koreans on



account of this concession, for the natives are very jealous of certain rights and this is one of them, for it seems like giving away a part of their State. I am inclined to think, however, that this concession will not be used so much for the cutting of timber as for making a good survey of those parts of the country for use if necessary by the naval and military authorities. I need not speak of the advantage of having a good map of the northern part of Korea in case of war, but it may be well to remind your readers that Dagelet Island is off the east central coast and quite close to Japan, as well as to the mainland, the only disadvantage as a naval station being that the harbour is rather deep and not sufficiently sheltered. That this place should be chosen simply for its timber is incredible.

The so-called Independence Party is now in power and consequently there is a good deal of sentimental talk about the independence of Korea. There has been no such thing as Korean independence for the last fourteen centuries and there can be no such thing now. I am quite aware that many persons will disagree with me when I say that Korea is not independent, for Mr. Waerber says that it is and a number of people try to persuade themselves that he is right. I doubt very much, however, if they really believe it. There certainly can be no Korean independence until the Korean character changes. At present the height of every Korean's ambition is to hold office of some kind, regardless whether the Russian or the Chinese are his masters.

We hope that the report of Mr. Oishi coming as Japanese Minister to the Korean Court is without foundation. He was here for some time a few years ago and gained an unenviable reputation for his bullying policy in regard to the Yensan bern case. If he does come I fear that Mr. Waerber will not have the smooth path over which he now travels. We also hear that the restrictions against Japanese coming to Korea have been removed. This is much to be regretted, for we fear that Korea will again be used as a field for the *soshi* to wipe out his country's disgrace in his own peculiar but barbarous fashion.

There is widespread discontent among the Japanese merchants, who see the Chinese getting most of the trade. During the war there was great rejoicing, for the Chinese having returned to China the trade fell into the hands of the Japanese merchants. The Chinese have long since returned and have now more trade than they ever had, at the expense of their rivals. This speaks volumes for the business abilities of the Chinese merchant.—N. C. Daily News correspondent.

### WEIHAIWEI.

7th December.

Baron Nishi, for some time past the chief officer of the Japanese garrison at Weihaiwei, has been recalled to Japan. We understand he has been promoted to the chief command of a division in the homeland. He is an able and popular officer and he has left the place with the best wishes of many for his future career. Before he left a new General arrived from Japan and was heartily welcomed by the troops.

Your correspondent has just returned from a three weeks' journey among some of the villages and market towns to the W. and S.W. of this place. Not a few Chinese expressed surprise that he was not afraid to live in the same place as those terrible *Yang-yin*. I am afraid it will be many a year before Chinese troops are as well behaved as the feared and hated Jap. By arrangement between the two Powers Japanese troops may locate anywhere within forty li of Weihai. Beyond this there was to be a neutral zone of forty li—troops of neither country were to settle there. But until recently, owing to China's inborn contempt for the foreigner and for international agreement, both to the east and west of Weihai Chinese troops were located well within the neutral zone. But to this we understand, Japan naturally objected. And not without success, for on this recent journey I passed through both these places and found that the Chinese troops were no longer there.

Some little time ago the natives of the place and neighbourhood were agog with the news

that the Japs were to clear out very shortly. But of course, though very generally believed, there was no foundation for the report. It probably, in some inexplicable way, had its origin in the signing of the commercial treaty between the two countries.

In these parts at least, and even a hundred and fifty li from the coast, matches are fast taking the place of flint and steel. And the European article has given place to the cheaper and better one "made in Japan." Japanese merchants are travelling here and there in E. Shantung to find out the trade-wants of the people. Last summer, at two different places, one of which was two hundred li from Weihai, we fell in with two or three Japanese merchants. They spoke very little Chinese, but managed to get along. One admired their pluck in travelling alone through the very district that a year and half before their victorious countrymen had marched through on their way to Weihai. All honour to the push and pluck of these interesting little islanders! —N. C. Daily News.

### CANTON NOTES.

[FROM THE "CHUNG NGOI SAN PO"]

A fire broke out in an opium divan in Hon-pun Street on the 11th instant, and twelve houses were burnt to the ground. The origin of the fire is unknown. Most of the shops that were burnt were shoemakers' shops.

A military officer's house inside the city was sealed up by the Government, as reported some time ago, in consequence of appliances for making counterfeit coins having been discovered therein. The military officer ran away. The wife of the officer applied to the Viceroy to be allowed to reopen the house, for she said that the appliances had been seized by her husband from false coin makers when he was sent to capture them and he forgot to deliver the same to the Government. The Viceroy in reply to the petition said that the excuse could not be admitted. If the appliances were got from false coin makers they ought to have been delivered to the Government long before they were discovered in her house and the case must be severely dealt with without compassion.

As the 21st instant is the festival of the winter solstice there will be a general holiday in Canton. All the Government offices will be closed and the civil as well as the military officers will go to Man-shan-kung to perform ceremonies.

A fire broke out in a pawnshop in the district of Samsui on the 5th instant. The cause of the fire was that the partitions of the house were ignited by some sparks from burning joss-paper. As soon as the fire occurred, the shop people deserted the house, except the master, who was burnt to death.

Two junks named *San-chiu-shing* and *San-sang-hop* were seized by the Government for conveying rice to foreign places, the export of rice being strictly prohibited. The likin station has issued a notice informing the people not to export rice. If any one is found guilty of doing so he will be severely dealt with. Favourable crops have been reported in the surrounding districts of Canton and the price of rice is cheaper than in Hongkong by fifty or sixty cents per picul.

On the 11th instant about a dozen robbers made an attack on a house in Fatsian. When they broke into the house they seized the master and fatally shot him. One of the fokies was also severely wounded. The robbers carried away about a thousand dollars worth of booty. Most of them were well known to the shop people, who say that they killed the master for revenge.

Mr. R. Hughes and three or four Japanese assistants left Kobe the other day for Taiwan, where Messrs. Samuel Samuel & Co., having secured the opium contract from the Government, who have made it a monopoly, are opening a branch office. Mr. Hughes we understand will return to Kobe in the course of a month, when he will decide as to whether he will take up his residence permanently in the island as the manager of the branch.—Kobe Chronicle.

### MACAO.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT]

14th December.  
The *Echo Macaense* in its last number again attacks me on account of my correspondence, but as the article is very violent I must pass it by for if I prolonged the discussion I might have to say many things that would bring pain to those interested in this colony.

The election of three members of the Tribunal das Contas took place last Sunday, and the three former members were re-elected, namely, Messrs. Pedro Nolasco da Silva, Antonio José Brandao, and Constancio José da Silva. There was no opposition.

The *Diario do Governo* of the 21st October contained the decree concerning Timor's independence of Macao. The independence is only to be as regards administration, as regards financial arrangements, Macao has to contribute an annual subsidy of \$60,000, because Timor's revenue is insufficient to cover the expenditure. It is hard for us here to see this money going away when we know that Macao itself stands in so much need of it. We have almost the whole of the Praya Grande wall in ruins and no money to repair it and yet we have to help others. If our income was greater than our expenditure it would be a different thing and we might be willing to help the sister colony, and even think it right that we should be called upon to do so. But in the present circumstances to take away money so badly required at home is very hard upon this colony.

I have no words to describe the disgraceful condition of the harbour. Petition after petition has been sent to the home Government with reference to this matter, but without effect. I believe Senhor Horta e Costa's recent visit to Lisbon was chiefly occasioned by this question. I see that he has got the sum of \$23,400 for dredging and \$15,625 to pay the interest on the loan and to buy a dredger, but what can be done with this small sum? No doubt, however, it will be used in some way for the benefit of the colony; if it is not enough for dredging it can be used for something else, and His Excellency is always anxious to improve the colony.

### HONGKONG.

The Secretary of State's reply respecting the constitution of the Sanitary Board has now been published and its tone is not altogether unfavourable to the petitioning reformers. Matters are to be left as at present until after the departure of Sir William Robinson, and the subject is then to be taken up *de novo*. On the 17th inst. a launch collided with a police pinnace; the pinnace was sunk and a Lukong was drowned. On Thursday it was decided to wind up Dakin, Cruickshank and Co., Limited, and a liquidator was appointed. The Hongkong Philharmonic Society gave its first concert of the season at the City Hall on Thursday evening, and on Saturday the Amateur Dramatic Club gave a highly successful performance of *Charley's Aunt*. The performance was repeated on Monday night.

There were 2,385 visitors to the City Hall Museum last week, of whom 175 were Europeans. The meeting of the Legislative Council which was fixed for Monday last has been postponed until Monday, 28th inst., at 3 o'clock.

H.E. the Governor has been pleased to recognise provisionally and pending the arrival of the Queen's exequatur Mr. S. Shimizu as in charge of the Imperial Japanese Consulate. The Secretary of the Panyon Mining Co., Limited, advises us that he has received the following telegram from the Mine: "The roads are flooded. The mill is standing idle for want of firewood. There has been a loss of three days. The flood is subsiding. Expect to resume operations in the course of a few days." We regret to learn of the death of Mr. D. Musso, the Italian Consul, which took place at the Peak Hospital on the 16th December. Mr. Musso was one of the oldest residents in the colony and was highly respected. The illness to which he succumbed was an affection of the liver.



In the person of Mr. M. A. Baptista, who died on the 18th December, a well-known figure has passed away, and one who was held in kindly regard by all those more immediately brought into contact with him. Mr. Baptista's profession was that of an artist, and for a long term of years he was responsible for the scene painting at the Theatre Royal, his efforts being frequently rewarded by a call before the curtain.

The match Hongkong Colts v. 12th Co. R.A. was played on Friday and ended in the defeat of the Colts by 6 goals to nil. If the Colts wish to make any show at all they had better go in for as much practice as possible and learn to keep their places. The half backs ought not to forget that they must help the backs as well as the forwards. The R.A. beat them at every point and had the game all their own way. The play of the R.A. is good and with another reliable back they should make a good show for the shield.

On the 16th December Bro. F. W. Edwards was installed as Worshipful Master of the Perseverance Lodge for the ensuing year, the ceremony of installation being performed by Right Wor. Bro. C. P. Chater, District Grand Master, assisted by the officers of the District Grand Lodge. Wor. Bro. Edwards invested his officers as follows:—I.P.M., Wor. Bro. H. W. Robertson; S.W., Bro. F. F. Kien; J.W., Bro. A. Cumming; Treasurer, Bro. A. H. Bottenheim; Secretary, Wor. Bro. S. J. Hanisch; S.D., Bro. F. W. Clark; J.D., Bro. E. L. C. Berger; D.C., Bro. J. Bragmann; Organist, Bro. A. G. Ward; Steward, Bro. P. G. Davies; I.G., Bro. P. G. Anderson; Tyler, Bro. J. R. Grimble.

In the Supreme Court on Monday the Chief Justice gave judgment in favour of the plaintiffs in the case of the Bank of China, Japan, and the Straits, Limited, v. Cheong Yau To, Cheong Yau Kung, and Lam Sin. The defendants were sued as executors and executrix of Cheong Kai, deceased, who had given a bond in the sum of \$100,000 to the Bank as security for Cheong Koon Sing, the Bank's comrade. The judgment establishes the liability of the defendants under the bond, but the adjustment of the accounts was referred to the Registrar in order that he may settle them and certify the amount for which judgment is to be entered, the amount, however, not to exceed \$100,000. The defendants contend that the accounts will show that the Bank is indebted to Cheong Koon Sing and not Cheong Koon Sing to the Bank.

On the night of the 18th December the Institute of Engineers and Shipbuilders of Hongkong gave their first dance of the season at the City Hall. Over four hundred invitations were issued, and the proceedings were most enjoyable. Lavish decoration of the rooms was not attempted; only the staircase and the reception room being set off with various flags and evergreens, which were displayed to the best advantage. There were fourteen dances on the programme and the music was supplied by the Band of the West Yorkshire Regiment. The Committees were as follows:—Dance—Messrs. Main and Bain. Invitation—Messrs. Main, Winterburn, Duncan, and Kyles. Decoration—Messrs. Ramsay, MacDonald, Cousins, and Bridger. Refreshment—Messrs. Aitken, Cousins, Kyles, and Main. Card Room—Messrs. MacDonald and Cousins. Cloak Rooms—Messrs. Ramsay and Winterburn. Hon. Secretary—Mr. W. K. Wylie.

A curious case has cropped up in Hongkong. Some time ago Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co.'s agents at Swatow sent an order for the printing of ten thousand one-dollar Chinese notes in Hongkong. The order was given to the Printing Press in D'Aguiar Street to execute, and on completion the notes were sent to Swatow, but it transpired that before the notes were delivered some of them had got into circulation, although they were really valueless, as they did not bear the firm's signature. The matter was reported to the Hongkong Police and Detective Sergeant McIver investigated the case. On Thursday he arrested a man in Centre Street, West Point. He was charged and he said he was in the company of a friend, when he picked the note up in the street and passed it in a shop in Hollywood Road for 80 cents. The prisoner was taken before the Magistrate on the 18th December and remanded.

The death-date last month was, for the British and Foreign community, civil population, 34; and for the Chinese population 237.

Owing to the death of Lieutenant Isaac, West Yorkshire Regiment, the band of the Regiment did not play on Sunday. Lieutenant Isaac was invalided home from Colombo and the news of his death in England reached Hongkong yesterday.

It is notified, that Saturday, 2nd January, is to be observed as a holiday in the Government departments in addition to the following public holidays under the Holidays Ordinance:—Christmas Day, the 26th December, and the 1st January.

A competition for trick bicyclists took place at the Elite skating rink on Friday night before a very good attendance. Messrs. C. G. Klinck and E. Levy gave an interesting exhibition and at the conclusion the referees, Messrs. R. F. Lammert and R. S. Bach, declared Levy to be the winner and he was awarded the gold medal. On the 24th inst. there will a weight lifting contest and on Boxing night another masquerade ball will be held.

A meeting of the subscribers to St. George's Ball was held on Monday afternoon. H.E. Sir William Robinson was voted to the chair. It was decided that the Ball should be held, as proposed by the provisional committee, on the 22nd January, and a general committee was appointed to carry out the arrangements. H.E. Sir William Robinson was requested to accept the office of President, and signified that he would be pleased to do so.

The Hongkong Police have received information of a most daring armed attack and robbery near Macao. Forty desperadoes proceeded to the village of Nam Kai, which is about an hour's walk from Macao, and plundered three houses. The thieves were for the most part armed and they tied up the inmates of the houses and bolted with over \$2,000 worth of booty. Fortunately one of the victims, whose hands only were tied, managed to slip the ropes and he ran out of his house and gave the alarm, and the result was that eight of the thieves, who had placed their plunder in rickshas, were arrested. The remainder escaped and it is thought some of them have come to Hongkong. It is to be hoped the efforts of the police will result in the capture of the whole of the gang.

#### COMMERCIAL.

##### TEA.

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO GREAT BRITAIN.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Canton and Macao .....	6,058,521	7,213,224
Shanghai and Hankow.....	17,809,185	20,252,570
Foochow .....	13,009,532	8,518,499
	35,877,238	35,984,293

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai .....	18,271,124	27,392,600
Amoy .....	14,569,921	9,811,046
Foochow .....	1,131,222	1,608,212
	33,972,267	38,811,858

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM CHINA TO ODESSA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Shanghai and Hankow .....	22,949,123	27,240,863

##### EXPORT OF TEA FROM JAPAN TO UNITED STATES AND CANADA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	lbs.	lbs.
Yokohama .....	25,919,716	28,956,080
Kobe .....	13,519,653	18,012,100
	39,439,369	46,968,180

##### SILK.

Shanghai, 18th December.—(From Mr. A. R. Burkill's Circular)—London advises its 16th make no change in quotations or in tone of the market. Raw Silk.—I have only to advise another week of almost complete inaction. Transactions, so far reported, in White Silk do not aggregate

more than 100 bales, and with purchases of Yellow Silk to a like amount the business of the week is represented. Export figures are somewhat larger than my estimate of 10th current, owing to the shipment of some quantities of contract Tussah Arrivals, as per Customs Return 10th December, 78 bales White, 238 piculs Yellow and 824 piculs Wild Silk. Filatures And Re-Seels.—I hear of no transactions. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is:—To London 2 bales, to Continent 1,199 bales, and to America 1,142 bales. Waste Silk.—The only settlements reported are of Honan, fair to good, at Tls. 52 1/2 to 58, according to quality.

##### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1896-97	1895-96
	bales.	bales.
Canton .....	16,650	11,143
Shanghai .....	30,887	42,097
Yokohama .....	7,159	13,500
	54,696	66,745

##### EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1896-97	1895-96
	bales.	bales.
Canton .....	2,209	8,235
Shanghai .....	3,086	6,884
Yokohama .....	9,649	19,803
	14,944	34,922

##### CAMPHOR.

Hongkong, 22nd December.—A still further decline has to be reported. Quotations for Formosa are \$48.50 to \$49.00. During the week sales have been 150 piculs.

##### SUGAR.

Hongkong, 22nd December.—The market has improved a little and prices are higher. Following are the quotations:—

Shenklong, No. 1, White...	\$7.22 to 7.25 per picul
do. " 2, White...	6.63 to 6.65 "
Shenklong, No. 1, Brown...	4.50 to 4.53 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.32 to 4.35 "
Swatow, No. 1, White...	7.11 to 7.14 "
do. " 2, White...	6.23 to 6.26 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown...	4.40 to 4.42 "
do. " 2, Brown...	4.27 to 4.30 "
Soochow Sugar Candy .....	11.05 to 11.10 "
Shenklong .....	9.54 to 9.56 "

##### MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

The American ship *Saint Mark*, Hongkong to New York 30th November, took:—50 packages Canes, 105 packages Rattanware, 1,176 cases Fans, 2,073 rolls Matting, 3,874 bales Cassia-lignea, 4,993 chests Tea, 26,252 packages Fire Crackers, 3,833 packages Cannon Crackers, and 305 package Merchandise.

The British ship *Clan Macfarlane*, Hongkong to San Francisco 8th December, took:—3,170 bags Rice, 3,572 bags Tapioca, 880 packages Tea, 370 cases Rice Flour, 200 cases Nut Oil, 2,460 empty Quick-silver Flasks, 100 bales Cassia, 100 bags Pepper, 505 bales Gambier, 40 packages Rattan-chairs, 530 bags Coffee, 912 rolls Matting, 161 bales Gunnies, 137 bags Beans, 5,000 bales Hemp, and 11,634 packages Merchandise.

The steamer *Ulysses*, Hongkong to London 9th December, took:—5,418 boxes Tea (27,783 lbs. Congou, 85,995 lbs. Scented Caper), 84 cases Essential Oil, 59 cases Cigars, 15 cases Chinaware, 1,175 cases Preserves, 774 cases Preserves, 463 rolls Matting, 400 bales Canes, 10 bales Mat bags, 274 packages Shells, and 17 packages Sundries for London option Manchester:—150 bales Waste Silk; for Manchester:—5 cases Cigars; for Liverpool:—8 packages Sundries; for Glasgow:—50 cases Ginger and 1 packages Sundries.

##### OPIUM.

Hongkong, 22nd December.—Bengal.—There has been an improvement in the demand during the interval and prices have advanced. New Patna is quoted at the close at \$70 1/2, New Benares at \$70 1/2, and Old Benares at \$72.

Malwa.—There has not been much inquiry for this drug during the past week, and rates have weakened. The following are the latest quotations:—

New (this yr.)	\$680 with allance of 2 to 4 cts.
(last yr.)	\$680
Old (2 1/2 yrs.)	\$700
Persian.	The market has ruled quiet with quotations at \$430 to \$500 for Oily and at \$300 to



\$555 for Paper-wrapped descriptions according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

New Patna .....	1,900 chests.
Old Patna .....	18 "
New Benares .....	240 "
Old Benares .....	118 "
Malwa .....	300 "
Persian .....	550 "

#### RICE.

HONGKONG, 22nd December.—Prices are still falling and the market is weak. Closing quotations are:—

Saigon, Ordinary .....	per picul.
Round, good quality .....	\$2.38 to 2.42
Long .....	2.56 to 2.60
Siam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 2 .....	2.72 to 2.74
Garden, " No. 1 .....	2.52 to 2.55
White .....	2.76 to 2.80
Fine Cargo .....	2.37 to 3.40
	3.62 to 3.65

#### COALS.

HONGKONG, 22nd December.—A small business is reported, market gradually rising. Holders of Japanese are firm; nothing doing in Cardiff and Australian. Quotations are:—

Cardiff .....	\$15.00 to 16.50 ex godown, nom.
Australian .....	6.25 to 6.50 ex ship, nominal.
Milke Lump .....	5.69 to 5.75 ex ship, nominal.
Milke Small .....	4.65 to — ex ship, do.
Moji Lump .....	4.25 to 6.50 ex ship, nominal.

#### MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

HONGKONG, 22nd December.—Amongst the sales reported are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS.—*Bombay Yarn*.—610 bales No. 10 at \$77 to \$85, 295 bales No. 12 at \$82.50 to \$88, 240 bales No. 16 at \$83 to \$91.50, 1,110 bales No. 20 at \$93.50 to \$103.50. *Grey Shirtings*.—350 pieces 10 lbs. Blue Dragon at \$3.82½, 250 pieces 10 lbs. Red Syces at \$3.70; 300 pieces 8½ lbs. 3 Carts at \$2.80. *White Shirtings*.—250 pieces No. 60 at \$3. *T-Cloths*.—1,125 pieces 7 lbs. Mexican Red Stag at \$2.37½. *Turkey Reds*.—500 pieces 2½ lbs. Mandarin at \$1.50, 500 pieces 2½ lbs. Mandarin at \$1.42½. *Drills*.—150 pieces 16 lbs. Large Eagle at \$5.30.

METALS.—*Yellow Metals*.—100 cases New 14/20 ozs. at \$26.60. *Tin*.—200 boxes tinplates at \$5.40.

#### COTTON YARN.

Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20 .....	per bale
English—Nos. 16 to 24 .....	\$75.00 to 104.00
" 22 to 24 .....	100.00 to 105.00
" 28 to 32 .....	107.00 to 114.00
" 38 to 42 .....	118.00 to 125.00
	124.00 to 136.00

#### COTTON PIECE GOODS.

Grey Shirtings—6lbs. ....	per piece
7lbs. ....	1.40 to 1.55
8½ lbs. ....	1.85 to 2.05
9 to 10 lbs. ....	2.00 to 3.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd. ....	3.20 to 4.00
58 to 60 " ....	2.15 to 2.35
64 to 66 " ....	2.50 to 3.10
Fine ....	3.00 to 3.50
Book-folds. ....	3.90 to 6.90
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ...	3.20 to 5.40
T-Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.), Ord'y. ....	0.60 to 1.25
7lbs. (32 " ) ....	1.40 to 1.55
6lbs. (32 " ), Mexs. ....	1.80 to 2.95
7lbs. (32 " ) ....	1.60 to 1.75
8 to 8½ lbs. (36 in.) ....	2.25 to 2.70
Drills, English—40 yds. 13½ to 14½ lbs. ....	2.35 to 3.20
	4.00 to 5.00

#### FANCY COTTONS

Turkey Red Shirtings—14 to 6lbs. ....	1.20 to 3.50
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Brocades—Dyed .....	3.75 to 4.50
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Damasks .....	per yard
Chintzes—Assorted .....	0.12 to 0.15
Velvets—Black, 22 in. ....	3.07 to 0.10
Velveteens—18 in. ....	0.20 to 0.23
	0.16 to 0.20

Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk .....	per dozen
	0.40 to 0.85

#### WOOLLEN

Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops. ....	per yard
German .....	0.55 to 0.95
Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths. ....	1.00 to 1.15
	1.25 to 3.50

Long Ella—Scarlet .....	per piece
Assorted .....	6.50 to 8.00
Camlets—Assorted .....	6.60 to 8.10
Lastings—30 yds., 31 inches. ....	13.00 to 27.00
Assorted .....	10.00 to 18.00
Orleans—Plain .....	3.00 to 3.60

Blankets—8 to 12 lbs. ....	per pair
	4.80 to 9.50
METALS .....	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod .....	2.30 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar .....	2.30 to —
Swedish Bar .....	— to —
Small Round Rod .....	— to —
Hoop .....	— to —
Old Wire Rope .....	— to —
Lead, Australian .....	7.20 to —
Yellow Metal—Muntz 14/28 oz. ....	29.00 to —
Vivian's 16/32 oz. ....	28.00 to —
Elliot's 16/28 oz. ....	27.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs .....	— to —
Tiles .....	26.00 to —
Tin .....	— to —
Tin-Plates .....	per box.
	5.10 to —
Steel .....	per cwt. case
	4.40 to —
SUNDRIES .....	per picul
Quicksilver .....	107.50 to —
Window Glass .....	per box
	3.50 to —
Kerosene Oil .....	per 10-gal. case
	2.05 to —

Shanghai, 17th December.—(From Messrs. No. 61, Murray & Co. Piece Goods Trade Report).—Piece Goods.—The inclination to buy as indicated in our last circular has developed during the week, and a good business has been done in the interval. As a relief to the monotonous dullness that has ruled the market during the past three or four months this renewal in demand is apt to be only too gladly received and the amount of sales over-estimated and while buying appears to have been made on a somewhat free scale the transactions are small when compared with those of any ordinary year. Besides the business actually done many offers have been submitted and refused by importers as the prices offered how such small margins that the tenders are not worth entertaining. Most of the usual staples have been dealt in to some extent, but those that have received greatest attention are 8-4-lbs. Grey Shirtings, Heavy Grey Shirtings, and White Shirtings, but in most instances both buyers and sellers do not care to divulge particulars of their transactions. It is also rumoured that several large lines of American Goods have found buyers for delivery next spring, but here also details are not forthcoming beyond that the New York market appears easier than it was a fortnight ago. Although quoted steady Manchester also appears easier to deal with and this, in a way, may be accounted for by the continued decline in Cotton which is now quoted 4½d. Although news is now difficult to obtain from our two principal outports, dealers have apparently received more encouraging news from the Szechuen districts and native holders are, in consequence, less anxious about placing their goods in this direction than they were. The money market here, however, is still a difficult matter to arrange and requires careful handling.

Metals.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bisfield & Co.'s Report, 18th December).—Business during the past week has been of a very paltry character. Lead.—200 tons have been sold for immediate delivery at Tls. 5.52½ and a small lot at Tls. 5.50. Home quotations are lower, L.R. 212/18, and Enthoven's 212/14, c.i.f. Nailrods.—We have heard of no transactions locally. Home quotations have materially increased to 126/ for Scheer, and 128/ to 130/ for Goffins, c.i.f. Old Iron.—50 tons Round Iron have been done at 91/6, c.i.f. 1,000 cases Tin Plates, 100/102 lbs., have been sold for the South at Tls. 4 per case.

#### CLOSING QUOTATIONS.

TUESDAY, 22nd December.  
EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON.—	
Telegraphic Transfer .....	2/1½
Bank Bills, on demand .....	2/1½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight .....	2/1½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight .....	2/1½
Credits, at 4 months' sight .....	2/1½
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight .....	2/2
ON PARIS.—	
Bank Bills, on demand .....	2.67
Credits, at 4 months' sight .....	2.72
ON GERMANY.—	
On demand .....	2.16
ON NEW YORK.—	
Bank Bills, on demand .....	51½
Credits, 60 days' sight .....	52½
ON BOMBAY.—	
Telegraphic Transfer .....	166½
Bank, on demand .....	167

ON CALCUTTA.—	
Telegraphic Transfer .....	166½
Bank, on demand .....	167
ON SHANGHAI.—	
Bank, at sight .....	71½
Private 30 days' sight .....	72½
ON YOKOHAMA.—	
On demand .....	1½ pm
ON MANILA.—	
On demand .....	8½ pm
ON SINGAPORE.—	
On demand .....	1½ pm
SOVEREIGNS Bank's Buying Rate .....	9.30
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael .....	48.60

#### JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, December 22nd.—Business has been a little brisker during the week under review, but there is still nothing of any importance to report. The tightness of money in Shanghai and a threatening tightness in Hongkong on account of the approaching Chinese New Year holidays seem to be the immediate causes of the recent depressed and present dull state of the market. Rates, however, have been fairly well maintained during the week, which must be looked upon as a good sign and as one promising a rise when business again returns to its normal condition.

BANKS.—Hongkong and Shanghai have changed hands in small lots at 182 and 181 per cent premium for cash, and at 184 and at 183½ for January, market closing quiet with sellers at 181. Nationals have been negotiated at \$26 after small sales at \$26½.

MARINE INSURANCES.—Unions continue with sellers at \$225 after small sales at \$220. China Traders have receded to \$74½ with sales at that and at \$75. At time of closing shares are on offer at \$75. North Chinas and Yangtzes have found buyers in the North at quotations. Cantons are obtainable to a small extent at \$182½. This Company advertises the payment of a dividend of \$5 per share for 1896, payable on the 2nd proximo.

FIRE INSURANCES.—Hongkong, after sales at \$366, were done at \$365, the market closing at \$365. Chinas continue steady with sales and small buyers at \$103.

SHIPPING.—Some small lots of Hongkong, Canton and Macao have changed hands at \$32½ and \$32½, at the former rate shares could be placed, but at the latter are obtainable. Indo-Chinas have ruled weak with sales at \$41, \$40½, and \$40. The Company has given notice of appeal against the recent *Ono New chwang* decision. Douglases remain very dull with sales at \$58½ and \$58 and close quiet at \$58. China Manilas continue entirely neglected and weak at quotation. China Mutual Preferences have found buyers at \$7 and Ordinaries at \$2 5s., closing with sellers at those rates.

REFINERIES.—China Sugars continue somewhat erratic sales having been effected at from \$138 to \$136 for settlements, at time of writing, cash shares are obtainable at \$136. Luxons have been enquired for at \$45 and \$46 cash and at equivalent rates forward without leading to business.

MINING.—Panjoms have continued quiet with only small sales at \$12, the weakness being caused by news from the mine of flooded roads and scarcity of firewood, from which cause work was delayed. News received to-day from the mine state that work was resumed on the 20th. The annual meeting of shareholders will be held on the 31st inst. and the transfer books were closed on the 19th. The report to be presented to shareholders will recommend the payment of the arrears of interest on preference shares, being 48 cents per share, or 12 per cent per annum for four years, and a dividend of 5 per cent on ordinary shares, i.e., 20 cents. Balmorals have ruled steady at \$115 with small sales. Olivers continue neglected at quotation. Jelebus have found small buyers at quotations.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS.—Hongkong & Whampoa Docks have been steadier with sales at 214 per cent prem. for cash and settlements and also small cash transactions at 214½ to 214½, at the present rate the stock gives a return of 7.60 per cent per annum without taking into consideration the near approach of the payment of the half yearly dividend of 12 per cent. Kowloon Wharves continue unchanged with small sales during the week.



\$594 to \$59. Wanchais remain unchanged and neglected at quotation.

**LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.**—Hongkong Lands have ruled weaker with sales at \$754 and sellers. Hotels are still in demand at \$304 to \$31, after further sales at the former rate. West Point after sales at \$184 seem a little firmer, with no sellers under \$19. Humphreys Estates have changed hands at \$9, \$94, and \$94, closing again at \$94.

**MISCELLANEOUS.**—Green Islands remain steady at \$184 to \$19. Fenwicks have changed hands at \$294. Ropes at \$147, \$146, and \$145. Watsons at \$12.25, and Tramways at \$99. At a meeting of shareholders of Dakin, Cruickshank & Co. it was resolved to wind up the Company on the strength of an offer to take it over as a going concern, which offer will, it is generally understood, bring about 70 cents per share to holders. The stock is enquired for at 50 cents. Bell's Asbestos have boomed to \$8 with sales for 17/6 paid up shares and are still enquired for at that rate.

Closing quotations are as follow:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
<b>Banks.</b>		[\$351.25, sellers]
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	181 1/2 prem=
China & Japan, pref.	25	nominal
Do. ordinary...	£1 10s	nominal
Do. deferred...	£1	£5, buyers
<b>Natl. Bank of China</b>		
B. Shares .....	£8	\$26, sales
Founders Shares...	£1	\$100, sellers
Bell's Asbestos E. A. ...	15s	\$8, sales & buyers
Brown & Co., H. G. ...	\$50	(in liquidation).
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$6
Carmichael & Co. ....	\$20	\$3
China Sugar .....	\$100	\$136, sales & sellers
Dakin, Cruickshank & Co.	\$5	nominal
Dairy Farm Co. ....	\$5	\$5, nominal
Fenwick & Co., Geo. ...	\$25	\$29, sales & sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$10	\$184, buyers
H. & China Bakery ...	\$50	\$30
Hongkong & C. Gas ...	£10	\$110
Hongkong Electric ...	\$8	\$6.40, sal. & sellers
H. H. L. Tramways ...	\$100	\$99, sales & sellers
Hongkong Hotel .....	\$50	\$304, sales & buyers
Hongkong Ice .....	\$25	\$108, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G. ...	\$50	\$504, sellers
Hongkong Rope .....	\$50	\$136, sales
H. & W. Dock .....	\$125	214 p. ct. prem.=
<b>Insurance.</b>		[\$392, sales & b.]
Canton .....	\$50	\$182, sellers
China Fire .....	\$20	\$103, sales
China Traders' .....	\$25	\$75, sales & sellers
Hongkong Fire .....	\$50	\$365
North-China .....	£25	Fls. 195, buyers
Straits .....	\$20	\$26, sales
Union .....	\$25	\$220, sales
Yangtze .....	\$60	\$144, sellers
<b>Land and Building.</b>		
H. Land Investment...	\$50	\$754, sales & sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$94, sales
Kowloon Land & B. ...	\$30	\$17, sellers
West Point Building	\$40	\$184
Luzon Sugar .....	\$100	\$46
<b>Mining.</b>		
Charbonnages .....	Fcs. 500	0
Jebeu .....	\$5	\$2.70, sellers
New Balmoral .....	\$3	\$1.15, sales & sellers
Oliver's Mines, A. ...	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do. B. ...	\$24	\$24, sellers
Punjom .....	\$4	\$12, sales
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$3.90, sales
<b>Rails.</b>	13s. 10d.	\$9, sellers
<b>Steamship Coys.</b>		
China and Manila...	\$50	\$58, sales
China Mutual Ord...	£5	£2.5s, sellers
Do. Preference...	£10	£7, sellers
Douglas S. S. Co. ...	\$50	\$58
H. Canton and M. ...	\$15	\$32, sales
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$40, sales
Wanchai Warehouse Co.	\$374	\$45
Watson & Co., A. S. ...	\$10	\$12.25, sal. & sellers

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

**SHANGHAI, 18th December.**—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s report.)—Business has been rather dull, with more inclination to sell than to buy, and we do not expect much improvement until after the heavy settlements for the end of the year are over. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—Cash shares have changed hands at 180 and 181 per cent. premium, and business has been done for the 31st December at 183 per cent. premium. We quote 182 per cent. premium as the closing cash rate. Other bank shares are unchanged. Shipping.—Business has been confined to Indo-China S. N. shares at Fls. 30 for cash and the same price for the end of the month. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat shares are wanted in Hongkong at \$924. Douglas

Steamship shares are wanted there at \$58. Docks.—Shares in S. C. Farnham & Co. were placed, and are offering, at Fls. 180. Founders' shares in the Shanghai Dock Co. are wanted, while Ordinary shares are offering. Marine Insurance.—China Traders' shares are offering at \$75. Unions at \$225, and Cantons at \$185. North China—changed hands at Fls. 196. Yangtses were placed at \$144/145 for the 8th current, and are now offering at \$144. There is no change to report in Straits, which are offering at \$26.25. Fire Insurance.—Business has been confined to Hongkong at \$359. Wharves.—Shanghai and Hongkew Wharf shares were placed at Fls. 1224, and Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown shares at \$58. Mining.—Jebeu Mining and Trading shares changed hands at \$2.60, and Balmoral Mining shares were sold to Hongkong at \$1.10. Tugs.—The Shanghai Tug Co. paid a third interim dividend on the 15th instant of Fls. 5. Shares are offering at Fls. 220 ex div. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares have been placed at Fls. 25. China Sugar Refining shares changed hands at \$136 and \$134. Luzons are weak at \$45. Lands.—Hongkong Land Investment shares were sold at \$76. Humphreys Estate & Finance shares were placed to Hongkong at \$84. Industrial.—Shares in Major Brothers were sold at Fls. 42. International Cotton shares at Fls. 90. Lion-Kung-Mow shares at Fls. 90, and Shanghai Rice Mill shares at Fls. 274. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Gas shares are wanted. Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares were placed at Fls. 106, Shanghai-Langkut Tobacco shares at Fls. 275/280. Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares at Fls. 75 and Fls. 80, and Hall & Holtz shares at \$38. Loans.—Shanghai Municipal Debentures of 1893 were placed at Fls. 105. Chinese Imperial Government Loan Bonds, issue E, at Fls. 275, and Shanghai Land Investment Company's 6 per cent. Debentures at Fls. 104, plus the accrued interest in all cases. Quotations are:—

Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, —\$3524.  
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$27.  
National Bank of China, Ltd. Founders.—\$100.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, pref. shares.—Nominal.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, ordinary shares.—Nominal.  
Bank of China, Japan, and The Straits, Limited, deferred shares.—£5.  
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Fls. 30.  
China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. pref. shares.—£8.5.0.  
China-Mutual Steam Nav. Co. ord. shares.—Fls. 17.  
Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—\$32.70.  
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$58.  
Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.  
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Fls. 185.  
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Fls. 180.  
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$3574.  
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$74.  
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Fls. 196.  
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$235.  
Yangtze Insce. Assn., Ltd.—\$14.  
Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$185.  
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$264.  
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$350.  
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$102.  
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Fls. 1224.  
Bir's Wharf Hide-curing and Wool-cleaning Company.—Fls. 50.  
Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company, Limited.—\$58.  
Sheridan Consolidated Mining and Milling Company, Limited.—Fls. 400.  
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$13.  
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$3.80.  
Jebeu Mining & Trading Co., Ltd.—\$2.60.  
Raub Australian Gold Min. Co., Ltd.—\$9.  
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Fls. 220.  
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Fls. 105.  
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Fls. 205.  
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Fls. 185.  
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Fls. 254.  
China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$1364.  
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$46.  
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (fully paid).—Fls. 824.  
Shanghai Land Investment Co., Ltd. (Fls. 80 paid).—Fls. Nominal.  
Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$76.  
Kowloon Land & Building Co., Ltd.—\$13.  
Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—\$84.  
Major Brothers, Limited.—Fls. 42.  
Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Fls. 50.  
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Fls. 90.  
Lao-kung-mow Cotton Spinning and Weaving Co., Ltd.—Fls. 90.  
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Fls. 525.  
Shanghai Ice Company.—Fls. 150.

Shanghai Gas Co.—Fls. 2124.  
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Fls. 253.  
Shanghai Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Fls. 100.  
Shanghai-Langkut Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Fls. 280.  
Shanghai Langkut Tobacco Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.  
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Fls. 80.  
J. Llewellyn & Co., Limited.—\$65.  
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$38.  
A. S. Watson Co., Limited.—\$124.  
Bell's Asbestos Eastern Agency, Ltd.—\$4.  
Hongkong Electric Co., Ltd.—\$64.

#### TONNAGE

**SHANGHAI, 18th December** (from Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s report).—Since the issue of our last there has been no change in rates for London, but there was a sudden drop of ten shillings per ton in the rate for New York, owing to the interference of an outsider loading at Hongkong and booking through from this at 25s. per ton; this vessel has received very good support, and it seems a pity that the Conference did not act sooner and so give their supporters an earlier opportunity of benefiting by the reduction especially as the last of the Tientsin boats were about to leave that port; we venture to say that had shippers from the north an idea that cheap rates could have been had from the line that they have been supporting during the past season, a good deal more produce would have been sent forward. There is no doubt that during the whole of this year the New York berth has not been sufficiently supplied with tonnage, and it would be well for agents or owners to take this fact into their consideration for next year. Conference can be made so strong as to prevent any outsider from interposing. Coasting.—Is still very dull with little or no prospect of improving just at the moment, the regular liners have now turned their attention to Chinkiang and the southern ports, but the rates ruling cannot be very remunerative. From Japan to this there has been no change, and the demand for tonnage is anything but great, several of our outside coasting boats having found it cheaper and wiser to lay up and await future events. For New York via Cape.—We mentioned in our last that there was an improbability of another vessel being taken up this season, but upon the departure of the *Sam Skolfield* on the 6th inst. an unusual demand for sail tonnage cropped up, with the result that the *Benjamin Sewall* was chartered to fill the requirements; this vessel will no doubt get good support and there is every chance of her leaving this direct for her destination. The *Collingrove*, being a full ship, will sail in a few days. The *Luzon* may possibly take the berth. Rates of freight are:—London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 40s.; tea 35s.; Northern Continental ports, by Conference Lines, general cargo 35s.; waste silk 40s.; tea 35s.; New York, by Conference Lines, general cargo 30s.; waste silk 30s.; tea 30s.; New York via London, by Conference Lines, general cargo 42s. 6d.; waste silk 47s. 6d.; tea 42s. 6d.; Boston via New York, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 52s. 6d.; tea 47s. 6d.; Philadelphia, by Conference Lines, general cargo 47s. 6d.; waste silk 52s. 6d.; tea 47s. 6d. Above rates are subject to a deferred return, as per Conference circular. London, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 3's. 6d. net; Hamburg, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 31s. 6d. net; New York, by German mail, Shell, and Rickmers' Lines, general cargo 39s. 6d. net; Havre direct, general cargo 32s. 6d. net; Genoa, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 32s. 6d. net; Marseilles, tallow 32s. 6d.; general cargo 32s. 6d. net. 42s. 6d. per ton of 20 cwt. for above three ports by all lines. New York, by sail, 19s.; New York by Pacific Lines, 14 gold cents per lb. Coast rates are:—Moji to Shanghai, 90 cents nominal per ton coal; Nagasaki to Shanghai, 85 cents nominal per ton coal.

#### VESSELS ON THE BERTH

For LONDON.—Palawan (str.), Glengarry (str.), Pakling (str.), Sunda (str.), Kaiser-Hind (str.), Hector (str.).  
For SAN FRANCISCO.—Matterhorn (str.), City of Rio de Janeiro (str.), Sumbawa, Gaelic (str.).  
For BREMEN.—Bayern (str.).  
For VICTORIA.—Victoria (str.).  
For NEW YORK.—William H. Smith, Penobscot, Sachsen (str.), Cassius (str.), Radnorshire (str.), Benjamin Sewall, Port Adelaide, Polyphemus (str.).  
For AUSTRALIA.—Guthrie (str.).

#### SHIPPING

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL

#### HONGKONG

December—ARRIVALS.  
16, Benledi, British str., from Foochow.  
17, China, German str., from Saigon.  
17, Chihli, British str., from Canton.



17. Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., from Moji.  
 17. Independent, Ger. str., from Kutchinotzu.  
 17. Ingraban, German str., from Tauron.  
 17. Nanchang, Brit. str., from Canton.  
 17. Nanyang, German str., from Canton.  
 17. Pectan, British str., from Batoum.  
 17. Petrarch, German str., from Moji.  
 17. Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.  
 17. Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., from Foochow.  
 17. Triumph, German str., from Hoihow.  
 18. Stanfield, British bark, from Rajang.  
 18. Whampoa, British str., from Canton.  
 18. Fooksang, British str., from Shanghai.  
 18. Chelydra, British str., from Kutchinotzu.  
 18. Sullberg, German str., from Haiphong.  
 18. Thales, British str., from Taiwanfoo.  
 18. Bylgia, German bark, from Taiwanfoo.  
 18. Kansu, British str., from Swatow.  
 18. Pakshan, British str., from Swatow.  
 18. Feiching, British str., from Chinkiang.  
 18. Dencaion, British str., from Sandakan.  
 19. Myrmidon, British str., from Liverpool.  
 19. Haimun, British str., from Tamsui.  
 19. Chingping, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 19. Immortal, British str., from Nagasaki.  
 19. Phra C. C. Kiao, Brit. str., from B'kok.  
 19. Cospolite, German str., from Moji.  
 19. Benlomond, British str., from Singapore.  
 19. Irene, German cruiser, from a cruise.  
 19. Cwmslar, British str., from Singapore.  
 19. M. Baqueheim, Austrian str., from Trieste.  
 19. Strathallan, British str., from Hongay.  
 19. Yungching, Chinese str., from Shanghai.  
 20. Ka'gan, British str., from Canton.  
 20. Kiangpak, Chinese str., from Hankow.  
 20. Loongmoon, German str., from Canton.  
 20. Pechili, British str., from Ningpo.  
 20. Szechuen, British str., from Tientsin.  
 20. Woosung, British str., from Shanghai.  
 20. Martha, German str., from Java.  
 21. Loksang, British str., from Chefoo.  
 21. Meefoo, Chinese str., from Canton.  
 21. Hangchow, British str., from Canton.  
 21. Taiwan, British str., from Canton.  
 21. Taicheong, German str., from Deli.  
 21. Mathilde, German str., from Haiphong.  
 21. Wuhu, British str., from Wuhu.  
 21. Wosang, British str., from Shanghai.  
 21. Hinsang, British str., from Moji.  
 21. Hongkong, French str., from Haiphong.  
 21. Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., from Moji.  
 22. Kansu, German str., from Canton.

## DEPARTURES.

December—  
 17. Meefoo, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 17. Namoa, British str., for Coast Ports.  
 17. Peiyang, German str., for Canton.  
 17. Progress, German str., for Haiphong.  
 17. Borneo, British str., for Shanghai.  
 17. Glengyle, British str., for Singapore.  
 17. Rohillar, British str., for Europe.  
 17. Thekla, German str., for Hamburg.  
 17. Retriever, Amr. sch., for Canton.  
 17. Yamaguchi Maru, Jap. str., for S'pore.  
 17. Spartan, British cruiser, for Manila.  
 17. Whan Tai, Chinese g-bt., for Saigon.  
 18. Ancona, British str., for Yokohama.  
 18. Clara, German str., for Hoihow.  
 18. Chihli, British str., for Shanghai.  
 18. Taisang, British str., for Canton.  
 18. Formosa, British str., for Swatow.  
 18. Bonledi, British str., for London.  
 18. Sendai Maru, Jap. str., for Shanghai.  
 18. Whampoa, British str., for Shanghai.  
 19. Pakshan, British str., for Singapore.  
 19. A. Apear, British str., for Calcutta.  
 19. City of Rio de Janeiro, Amr. str., for San Francisco.  
 19. Germania, German str., for Amoy.  
 19. Hanoi, French str., for Haiphong.  
 19. Hailan, British str., for Hoihow.  
 19. Hiroshima Maru, Jap. str., for Bombay.  
 19. Idzumi Maru, Jap. str., for Kobe.  
 19. Nanyang, German str., for Shanghai.  
 19. Sungkiang, British str., for Manila.  
 20. Fooksang, British str., for Shanghai.  
 20. Sullberg, German str., for Haiphong.  
 20. Tetartos, German str., for Saigon.  
 20. Thales, British str., for Swatow.  
 20. Triumph, German str., for Swatow.  
 21. Szechuen, British str., for Canton.  
 21. Energia, British str., for Kobe.  
 21. Hangchow, British str., for Shanghai.  
 21. Hydaspes, British str., for London.  
 21. Kalgan, British str., for Shanghai.  
 21. Pectan, British str., for Nagasaki.  
 21. Taiwan, British str., for Shanghai.  
 21. Myrmidon, British str., for Shanghai.

21. Woosung, British str., for Canton.  
 21. Yungching, Chinese str., for Canton.  
 22. Machias, American cruiser, from Swatow.  
 22. Salazie, French str., from Shanghai.  
 22. Zafiro, British str., from Manila.  
 22. Taisang, British str., from Canton.  
 22. Haimun, British str., for Swatow.  
 22. M. Baqueheim, Aust. str., for Shanghai.  
 22. Esmeralda, British str., for Manila.  
 22. Strathallan, British str., for Canton.  
 22. Kansu, British str., for Shanghai.  
 22. Kiangpak, Chinese str., for Swatow.  
 22. Loongmoon, German str., for Shanghai.  
 22. Meefoo, Chinese str., for Shanghai.  
 22. Irene, German cruiser, for Manila.

## PASSENGER LIST.

## ARRIVED.

Per Meefoo, str., from Shanghai—Miss Moller.  
 Per Taisang, str., from Shanghai—Rev. and Mrs. Bonfield and son and Capt. Rolfe, R.N.R. From Swatow—Mr. Haesloop and Mrs. Focken.  
 Per Haimun, str., from Tamsui, &c.—Messrs. Boyd, Breton, and Moir, Walker.  
 Per Dencaion, str., from Sandakan—Rev. W. H. Elton.  
 Per Benlomond, str., from London, &c.—Mr. and Mrs. Brindley.  
 Per Woosung, str., from Shanghai—Capt. Arthur, Messrs. Adamson, Litton, and Cornish.  
 Per Wuhu, str., from Wuhu—Mr. Bailly.  
 Per Wosang, str., from Shanghai, &c.—Mr. Tong Kit Sin and family.

## DEPARTED.

Per Rohilla, str., from Hongkong for Singapore—Misses Bolitho and Wauchope. For Colombo—Mr. Phillips, Major and Mrs. Jackson. For Ismailia—Miss A. Goodsell, Messrs. H. T. Safford and G. W. Weeks. For Brindisi—Dr. and Mrs. S. I. Darrin, Mr. and Mrs. Bruok. For London—Mr. A. E. Cottier, Mrs. C. Cottier, Miss A. Erwin, and Mr. A. B. Johnson. From Shanghai for Brindisi—Mr. H. A. I. Macray. For London—Messrs. A. Munro, G. R. Barry, and Souter. From Yokohama for Colombo—Hon. J. F. Price.  
 Per Bayern, str., for Shanghai from Genoa—Messrs. Aug. Muller, R. Lippmann, Detring, A. R. Colquhoun, Busalo, C. Edler, and A. Kappen. From Naples—Miss Anna Krause, Mr. D. Hay. From Southampton—Rev. and Mrs. Sparham and child, Miss A. L. Cousins, Rev. H. Robertson, Dr. R. Wolfendale, Messrs. C. H. Southey and Moffat, Misses Sprague, Stockford, and M. H. Davis, Dr. and Mrs. Tilsley. From Hongkong—Mr. J. Jessen.  
 Per ohenzollern, str., for Yokohama from Bremen—Dr. Weipert. From Genoa—Messrs. H. Lero and H. Berner. From Colombo—Mr. P. Strobel. For Hyogo from Bremen—Mr. C. Tutemann.  
 Per Ancona, str., from Hongkong for Nagasaki—Mr. and Mrs. Nogleby, Messrs. Distel and Jaustz, and Lieut. Schultz. For Yokohama—Messrs. W. Lippial and M. Lynch. For Kobe—Capt. Tyers. From London for Yokohama—Mr. and Mrs. Mushlev. From Brindisi for Yokohama—Mr. Maruta.  
 Per City of Rio de Janeiro, str., for Yokohama—Messrs. George Mahé and Louis Imbert. For San Francisco—Mr. Th. F. Vansloten, Mrs. M. R. Norris, and Mr. E. Langeheim.

HONGKONG.  
STEAMERS.

Anvers, Belgian str., 1,689, Dulling, Sept. 17, Butterfield & Swire.  
 Benlomond, Brit. str., 1,756, McIntosh, Dec. 19, Gibb, Livingston & Co.  
 Bygdo, Norwegian str., 771, Ivensen, Nov. 19, Wieler & Co.  
 Cassius, German steamer, 1,504, Unruh, Dec. 9, Lauts, Wegener & Co.  
 Chelydra, British str., 1,575, Crockett, Dec. 18, Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
 China, German steamer, 1,114, Voss, Dec. 17, Siemssen & Co.  
 Chwnshan, British str., 1,284, Murphy, Dec. 19, Chinese.  
 Cosmopolit, German str., 575, Holtz, Dec. 19, Wieler & Co.  
 Dante, German str., 1,302, Koepke, Nov. 10, Wieler & Co.  
 Dencaion, British str., 1,374, Branch, Dec. 18, Butterfield & Swire.  
 Empress of Japan, Brit. str., 6,000, Lee, Dec. 1, C. P. R. Co.

Fatahan, British str., 1,425, B. L. Blight, H. C. & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton.  
 Frejr, Danish steamer, 3395, Sunder, Nov. 28, Arnold, Karberg & Co.  
 Gaelic, British steamer, 2,690, Sept. 15, O. & O. S. S. Co.  
 Guthrie, British str., 1,496, McArthur, Dec. 22, Gibb, Livingston & Co.  
 Hankow, British str., 2,235, Dick, Butterfield & Swire, for Canton.  
 Henneghan, British str., 1,054, W. E. Clarke, H. C. & M. Steamboat Co., for Macao.  
 Hinsang, British str., 1,566, Kynock, Dec. 21, Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
 Honam, British str., 1,344, H. C. & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton.  
 Hongkong, French str., 739, Bastian, Dec. 21, A. R. Marty.  
 Independent, Ger. str., 821, Ahrenkiel, Dec. 17, Wieler & Co.  
 Ingraban, Ger. str., 894, Diederichsen, Dec. 17, Wieler & Co.  
 Jacob Diederichsen, Ger. str., 623, Schlaikier, Dec. 21, Jebsen & Co.  
 Kwonghoi, British steamer, 419, Chinese, for Canton.  
 Martha, German str., 1,418, Schupp, Dec. 20, Butterfield & Swire.  
 Mathilde, German steamer, 600, Berg, Dec. 21, Jebsen & Co.  
 Nanchang, Brit. str., 1,062, Finlayson, Dec. 17, Butterfield & Swire.  
 Onsang, British str., 1,787, Young, Dec. 16, Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
 Pasig, British str., 284, Chinese, for Canton.  
 Petrarch, German str., 1,252, Schall, Dec. 17, Wieler & Co.  
 Phra C. C. Kiao, British str., 1,012, Pigot, Dec. 19, Yuen Fat Hong.  
 Phra Nang, British str., 1,021, Watton, Dec. 12, Yuen Fat Hong.  
 Powan, British str., 1,842, S. W. Goggin, H. C. & M. Steamboat Co., for Canton.  
 Prosper, Norwegian str., 789, Gogstad, Nov. 26, Lauts, Wegener & Co.  
 Sabine Rickmers, Ger. str., 598, Sanders, Dec. 17, Arnold, Karberg & Co.  
 Salazie, French str., 2,088, Troadeo, Dec. 22, Messageries Maritimes.  
 Siegfried, German str., 1,107, Ahrens, Nov. 23, Harling, Buschmann & Mansell.  
 Taicheong, German str., 828, Duhme, Dec. 22, Meyer & Co.  
 Taichow, British str., 862, Primrose, Dec. 15, Yuen Fat Hong.  
 Taisang, British steamer, 1,505, Sawyer, Dec. 22, Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
 Zafiro, British steamer, 675, Cobban, Dec. 22, Shewan, Tomes & Co.

## SAILING VESSELS.

Belle of Bath, Amr. ship, 1,347, Curtis, Sept. 2, Captain.  
 Bylgia, Ger. bark, 333, Mangelsdorff, Dec. 18, Sander & Co.  
 Congo, Spanish 3-m. sch., 300, Arana, Dec. 12, Gibb, Livingston & Co.  
 Ed. May, Amr. bark, 860, Johnson, Dec. 15, Master.  
 Fort Stuart, British ship, 2,312, Varstone, Nov. 6, Order.  
 Fred. P. Litchfield, Amr. bark, 991, Hardy, Nov. 20, Order.  
 Glen Caladh, British bark, 466, Lamont, Mar. 1, Gilman & Co.  
 Ladakh, British ship, 1,908, Johnstone, Nov. 21, Jardine, Matheson & Co.  
 Lothair, Italian bark, 796, Ferretta, July 31, D. Musso & Co.  
 Matterhorn, Brit. bark, 1,839, Williams, Nov. 20, Standard Oil Co.  
 Penobscot, Amr. bark, 1,067, Macaulder, Nov. 20, Arnold, Karberg & Co.  
 R. R. Thomas, Amr. ship, 1,333, Nichols, Nov. 24, Standard Oil Co.  
 Sachem, Amr. ship, 1,311, Lancaster, June 12, Order.  
 Stanfield, British bark, 560, Wilson, Dec. 18, Order.  
 Velocity, British bark, 527, Oct. 1, Chinese.  
 West York, British bark, 688, Davis, Oct. 18, Order.  
 Wm. H. Smith, Amr. ship, 1,908, Wilson, Aug. 21, Standard Oil Co.

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